



SERVING THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SHERIFF SINCE 1941

Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Newsletter

OCTOBER MEETING

Washing an airplane:

A very large airplane

Why are Air Squadron members Tom Jones and Matt Armenta smiling? They have just finished using a large amount of elbow grease during last month's washing of the California Aerospace Museum's B727 aircraft.

The work was called for in order to prep for the Museum's annual BBQ banquet and post-dinner fireworks display.

Take a look at the picture below for a before and after fuselage view. Yes, the old FedEx bird was actually white underneath all the accumulated dirt and grime.



Seeing this good volunteer work reminds all of us that aircraft washing is an essential part of ownership.

The work is sweaty and time-consuming chore, or a session of pure Zen allowing us to focus on scrubbing bugs and grime from the aluminum. Actually, discrepancies can often be found as the cleaning touches all parts of the aircraft during washing.



And remember not to use Simple Green All-Purpose Cleaner on aircraft, since it can promote corrosion if left on aircraft surfaces too long. Extreme Simple Green has been specifically formulated for use on aircraft.



Sheriff's Training Academy

October 16th -- 5:30 pm

1000 River Walk Way

What do Sacramento County Sheriff's recruits experience in their training program? This month, we will find out.

Thanks to the efforts of Lt. Brandon Luke, we have been invited on a Sheriff's Training Academy tour. Included will be a visit to the Sheriff's museum and a stop at the Sheriff's memorial for fallen officers.

We have arranged for a tasty BBQ meal to be prepared on-site.

This meeting will also serve as the required Annual Meeting specified in our Squadron by-laws. Our Nominating Committee will present proposed 2020 Squadron officers.

AROUND THE SQUADRON

By Ron Richey

As Paul Harvey used to say....Now for the rest of the story: Last month we described the frustration **Bill Cox** was going through trying to find out why the engine on his C-182 was showing low to no oil pressure.

Bill had removed and reinstalled the engine a couple of times after swapping out various parts, including an oil pump.....without resolving the problem. After more consultations with mechanics and engine rebuilders, it was determined that the case had to be split for a look inside the engine to see what was going on.

Bill and crew discovered the main crankshaft bearing in the front of the engine had failed; it had actually split and rotated enough to block the oil flow.

Bill was looking at a catastrophic engine failure in a very short period of time. The good news is....Bill found the problem.....while on the ground. The engine is out for an overhaul.

Last month we all read about the dive boat Conception catching fire and taking the lives of most on board down in Southern California.

Kelly & Jana Couch have previously booked two dive trips on that very boat. Kelly said the dive company was professionally run and the boat itself was in pretty good shape considering its age. Jana said she did not particularly like the tight

quarters down below, said the lower deck was nothing more than bunk beds stacked on top of one another. The exit stairs were at the stern going up to the second deck; forward was a small escape hatch which was used for air ventilation in the evening.

Kelly mentioned everyone stacked their gear in the bow area, making it difficult to even get near the hatch. On the second deck was the galley and apparently electrical outlet(s) for charging everyone's cell phones and cameras.....speculation is the fire may have started at the charging station....overloaded circuit or a battery cooking off.

As you read this...**Kevin & Kerrie O'Neill** are touring around Italy. Kevin states this is the first two week plus vacation he has taken in forty some odd years. (Wonder why he waited so long?)

Professor **Ulli Luenemann** had a group of German students visiting and looking to tour our area by airplane. Ulli was able to enlist **Kurt Siggard** and a couple of guys from the north hangar group to fly folks to the Bay and over Lake Tahoe. Apparently Kurt put several hours on his new engine. Usually there are several Air Squad guys willing to fly the visiting students, but this year everyone seemed to be down for maintenance and annuals.

Hotel magnate and aviator, Barron Hilton passed away on September 19th at 91 years old. Over the past couple of years, Air Squad members **Aaron Zeff, Ron Galindo, Chuck Asbury and Ron Richey** have flown Honorary Air Squad Member **General Chuck Yeager** over to Hilton's private airport out near Hawthorne, Nevada.



Zeff and Galindo made the flight in their Wilga, while Richey was Yeager's back seater in a Husky and Asbury shuttled Mrs. Yeager in his C-340. Needless to say, it was quite an experience flying with such an aviation legend.

Ron Richey will be heading off to the American Airlines Training Center in Dallas, Texas to participate in the **ATOPS 737** program he won at last year's change of command dinner.



There are over 60 airplanes based at the field.

One of the busiest university owned airports is Purdue University Airport, located in West Lafayette, Indiana. Purdue was the first university to own and operate an airport – KLAF opened in 1930. The airport received considerable publicity when Amelia Earhart prepared her airplane for an around-the-world flight. She was an adjunct faculty member at the time and her Lockheed Model 10 Electra was purchased for her by the Purdue Research Foundation.

In the 1960's Purdue University actually operated their own airline using McDonnell Douglas DC-9 aircraft based at the airport. One DC-9 became famous since it was painted in the livery of Hugh Hefner for his Playboy jet – known as the Big Bunny. The jet was actually based at the university's airport and picked up passengers at Chicago O'Hare Airport.



Dale Terry, Commander

Commander's Column: University Airports

There are 25 U.S. airports owned by universities – we live close to one – University Airport, Davis (KEDU).

Located just 2-miles west of Davis, the airport, opened in 1946, is often used as a training site for student pilots and pilots picking up some takeoff and landing experience.

Of the 10 campuses in the UC system, Davis is the only one with its own airport. And you never quite know what type of aircraft might be on site.

Recently, UC Davis has been investigating using helicopter drones for crop-dusting. These new aircraft will relieve farmers from the traditional labor-intensive manual spraying or hired crop dusters.

The drone program contributes to the university's agricultural research. And, of course, the airport is a convenient place for UC employee transportation.





September Meeting

Active Shooter Presentation, thanks to

Lt. Orrlando Mayes

