



SERVING THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SHERIFF SINCE 1941

# Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

## Positive Altitudes:

### Positive results

California Capital Airshow last month hosted a remarkable event – Positive Altitudes --at Mather Aviation that left a lasting impact on the minds of elementary school children.

Our Squadron was in full force to represent our group and activities.

Positive Altitudes event is a free STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) initiative, that introduced enthusiastic kids to aviation.



Along with Ken Lux, Doug Hunting, Shawn Britton, Ryan Long and Andrew Bates, I had a great time.



The event aimed to inspire curiosity and foster a love for science and technology among the next generation, focusing on aviation-related fields. Throughout the day, we had many visitors at our booth.

We had the privilege of conversing with these young minds brimming with questions and enthusiasm. Their eagerness to learn about aviation was contagious, and witnessing their genuine curiosity was heartwarming.

By Lisa Simpson

**Darcy Brewer**

**Executive Director**

**California Capital Airshow**

**June 14th, 5:30 pm**

**KSAC Squadron Headquarters**

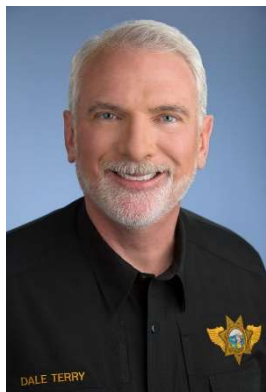


Darcy joined the California Capital Airshow in 2008 and has grown the event into a regional aviation attraction.

She is a very active pilot who loves to fly in Alaska bush country –floats, skis, and tundra tires.

Joining Darcy at our meeting will be **Stephen Clark**, Deputy Director, Commercial Development at KSMF.

## AROUND THE SQUADRON



By Dale Terry

Regular columnist Ron Richey is taking two months off from his regular column. This month he is traveling in Mexico talking a look at a relocation to a home south of the border. His column will return in August.

Ron is learning how to make everything work – living in Mexico. Besides plans to relocate, he is in the process of closing his office after 30+ years.

Ron's goal is to close on a house deal at Lake Chapala, Mexico's largest expat hotspot and largest lake. Some call this the "Mexican Riviera." Located 28 miles southeast of Guadalajara the area is home to numerous towns and cities.

Your Newsletter editor and **Annette Terry** just returned from a wonderful business/pleasure cross-country flight to Phoenix and Albuquerque. While in New Mexico, we viewed several ancient pueblo petroglyph sites.

While visiting we learned the importance of the number "4" to the Zia people. Their sun symbol, which now is used throughout New Mexico symbolized the four seasons, four cardinal points of the compass, four stages of life and four phases of the moon. The symbol is used at KABQ, on

license plates, flags, T-shirts jewelry and skin tattoos.

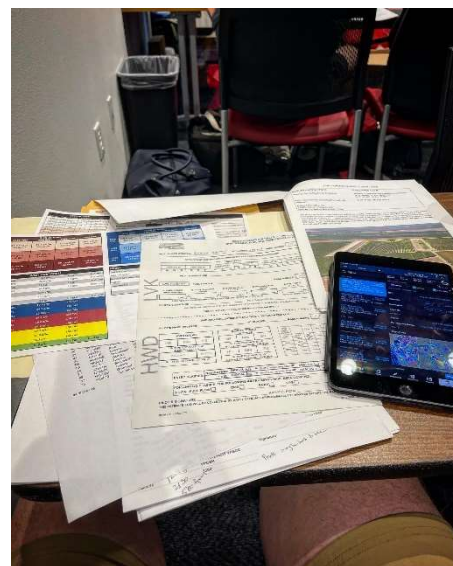


You can see the parrott's four tail feathers on petroglyph below.



Congrats to **Shawn Britton** – as he won the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Hayward Air Rally. His number 77 covered over 261 nm in approximately 2 hours of flying.

Our math proficient and skillful aviator was able to accurately plan and execute his route within 13 seconds and 0.5 gallons of fuel of his flight plan.



Shawn's challenge was to execute a flight plan with course, flight time and fuel consumption for each leg of the rally. So, what we want to know is if he used GPS, and his fuel totalizer! Or did he use the "traditional" navigation based upon pilotage skills.



The Hayward Air Rally is the longest continually held proficiency flying event in North America. The event grew out of a personal challenge between Hayward city officials in 1965, with the rally now in its 59<sup>th</sup> year.

The rally offers competition, challenge, and camaraderie to participating pilots.

## Safety Brief:

### Flying in hot weather



By Hunter Jefferson, CFII

As we enter the summer months the weather is improving, and many Squadron members are getting their planes ready to go fly.

It's the time to give the aircraft a bath and get it ready to take friends and family flying. It's also a good time to review summer flying tips to create safe and memorable trips.

Summer weather reminds us of the four H's: high altitudes, hot temperatures, heavy aircrafts, and humid conditions. As a result, this leads to high density altitudes.

Although there are many great tips for flying in the hot summer months, here are just a few according to FAA Safety Briefing Magazine. The feds recommend these four things to avoid a deadly density altitude cocktail.

1. First, avoid takeoffs and landings during the hottest part of the day, between 1pm and 5pm.

2. Second, pack a lighter load in the airplane, that includes max fuel and non-essential passengers and be extra vigilant on the passenger weights and their belongings.
3. Third, if flying in a high-density altitude situation, you may need to adjust the mixture control on takeoff to maximize engine power, but always consult your POH for the best mixture setting given the conditions at your takeoff airport.
4. And lastly, be conservative with your aircraft performance calculations. This includes takeoff roll distance as well as climb gradient. If you usually climbing out at 600 fpm, try reducing the climb to 400 fpm.



Aside from the FAA's tips, as heat increases, the chance of getting vapor lock is increased. If you have a short turn around at your destination, try to park into the wind and open any engine cowlings to increase air flow over the engine. Although this may not eliminate vapor lock, it can reduce it.

Having flown helicopters for a while now, there are often new hires that are unprepared for flying in a helicopter during summer months. Constant vibrations combined with summer heat are ingredients to fatigue quickly.

The FAA, recommends preparing yourself to fly in hot temperatures. This includes the IMSAFE acronym. Bring plenty of water for your flight or even consider bringing a camel pack. Remember to eat good meals and bring healthy snacks on the flight to avoid fatigue.



So go out and enjoy flying in our nice weather with friends and family! There are great destinations waiting for us.



## Commander's Column:

### Appreciation for our team

Feeling good about our Squadron? You should! You are associated with a bunch of exemplary people.

I could really feel the team spirit at our May meeting with CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee as our guest speaker. And our scholarship winners helped us all to realize our passion for community outreach goals.

Words sometimes aren't enough for me to express my appreciation for the help and commitment Squadron members have shown recently. Our outreach at Positive Altitudes is just one example of our team working well together.

Thanks for your dedication and passion for our Squadron!

For me, being your Commander is an important personal accomplishment.

And I am very grateful for the support each of you have given me in this role. Thanks so much.

Our scholarship program designed by Shawn Britton makes us all proud to be part of the Squadron. Kudos to all the Scholarship Committee members who have given their time to the interview, selection and mentoring of our award winners.

I remember a great quote from Ken Blanchard, business development expert. He said, "None of us is as smart as all of us." I agree.

It has been great to see our new members jump in and take on important roles. The success of our Squadron depends on that kind of involvement and commitment.

Steve Throne also chairs our Membership Committee. And another important member on my team is Chad Wells who acts as our Quartermaster coordinating events, food, hut condition, and swag.

Each one of these folks are key to our success.



As a reminder, here are the members of our Executive Board who work with me – they are a committed group.

Shawn Britton, Vice Commander  
Kevin Phillips, Treasurer  
Steve Throne, Secretary  
Dale Terry, Communications Officer  
Ken Lux, Past Commander

Enjoy flying this month!

**Doug Hunting, Commander**



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
*Thunderbirds*

SACRAMENTO  
COUNTY  
PRESENTS  
CALIFORNIA CAPITAL  
AIRSHOW  
MATHER AIRPORT • SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2023  
in partnership with  
RANCHO CORDOVA  
CALIFORNIA

**SEPTEMBER 23-24, 2023**  
[CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com](https://CaliforniaCapitalAirshow.com)



**JIM PHILLIPS: VIEW FROM THE LEFT SEAT**

(Ed. Note: Long time Squadron member Jim Phillips has a wealth of aviation stories gained over his many years of flying. Periodically he will share these stories in this column.)

## Learning to fly

I began my flying in the winter of 1958.

For Christmas that year, my new bride, learning about my love of airplanes and flying, gave me a gift certificate for 10 hours of flying lessons. The perfect place was Patterson Aircraft, the KSAC Cessna dealer. She thought those 10 hours would be enough time to solo and see if I was interested in a Private Pilot's certificate – at my expense.

Bill Phelps, a great instructor signed off on my solo flight at Franklin Field after 6 hours of dual instruction. Later, Bill and I became good friends.

John Patterson, the FBO owner, needed a Cessna 172 and 182 ferried from the Cessna factory in Wichita, KS. My cross-country instructor, Paul Bigler, asked me if I would like to go along, fly in the C172 left seat and log dual cross-country time.

What an experience for a student pilot!

We were to leave the factory with a brand-new airplane, but no radios or navigation equipment. We had a wet compass – so the trip was to be dead reckoning.

At the Cessna factory we had a wonderful tour during which we watched workers build new airplanes. Then we departed for Amarillo, TX where we spent the first night.

On touching down the 172's left brake grabbed, so Paul very quickly applied the right brake to equalize the braking force. After the local dealer repaired the brake, we were off to Sacramento via Apple Valley. This was a non-tower airport where we refueled and called ahead to KSAC control tower to

let them know we had no radio and provided them with an ETA.

En route to Apple Valley, I noticed that we were about 10 miles south of the course we had plotted on our sectional. As a novice, I felt proud that I was telling my instructor of this discovery. It seems we had a strong cross wind blowing us off course. We adjusted and were soon on the correct course.



What a fabulous experience it was for this student pilot!

Later, back at KSAC, my FAA examiner did not like my cramming 13.5 hours of dual cross-country in two days. He made me take one more check ride – both of which I passed in May 1959.

I was very fortunate to have had such a great flying experience.

## First Scholarship Award Winners Selected



Our Squadron Scholarship Committee has selected **Sophia Barton and Tenley Ong** as 2023 award winners. Both will receive \$2,500 awards.

Over 25 applications were received by the Committee for consideration with 8 applicants receiving in-person interviews with the Committee. All applicants have been invited to participate in Squadron meetings.

The official award will be presented at the Aerospace Museum of California's Hero's Event on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm. Our Squadron scholarship program is a cooperative effort with both the museum and Sacramento County Sheriff's Office.



**Sophia Barton** is a Junior in high school who heard about our scholarship program through Lisa Simpson and The Ninety-Nines Sutter Buttes chapter. She works part-time at Starbucks and will be working as a part-time lifeguard at the El Dorado CSD pool this summer.

Sophia has begun her flight training and is working to pass her written exam, then on to her first solo. She hopes to become an airline pilot after completing private, instrument, commercial, multi-engine, CFI, and ATP ratings.

Her hobbies include mountain biking and photography.

She will use her scholarship award to fund her continuing flight training.

**Tenley Ong** graduated from the University of Oregon and currently works at Axis Jet. She is interested in becoming involved in electric aviation and UAM/AAM. Currently Tenley has completed her instrument rating, is working on her commercial and anticipates completion of her multiengine rating this summer – hoping next to fly for Axis Jet. Job positions with CalFire, search and rescue operations or corporate pilot all are of interest to her.

She learned about our Squadron's scholarship program through friends in the aviation community at KSAC.



Tenley is a ski instructor at Olympic Valley, CA and is an EAA Vintage Chapter 25 Board Member. In her EAA role she coordinates the chapter's Young Eagle program. And if that's not enough, she is also a martial arts instructor.

She is proud to have been involved in several community service projects, including the Mira Loma Arcade Creek Project – a multi-year effort to clean and restore Arcade Creek in Carmichael, CA.

Tenley will use her award to fund her continuing commercial ticket studies.



Photos clockwise from upper left: May Squadron meeting at Aviator's Restaurant KSAC; scholarship winners with CHP Commissioner Sean Duryee; Chief Deputy Don Donelli; scholarship winners with Shawn Britton, Scholarship Chair and Stan Stewart scholarship mentor; Jim Phillips with Commissioner Duryee.

Photos by Tim Pinkney