



Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Newsletter

SERVING THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SHERIFF SINCE 1941

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Open house & Family day:

Squadron invites members, families and community

This month our Sheriff's Air Squadron has announced an open house for members, their families, friends, and the aviation public.

Held at the Squadron's KSAC headquarters building, the event will be open from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, on Sunday, November 12th. Guests will have the opportunity to learn about our Squadron's mission and learn from our members how our group is involved in community outreach.

Also, visitors will be able to see a static display of member's aircraft and SSO's latest patrol vehicle.

Exhibits will highlight Squadron activities in support of Sacramento County Sheriff, scholarship outreach to aviation-oriented students, social activities for members and the Squadron's educational program for pilots and community airmen.

There will be refreshments -- lunch, catered by Aviator's Restaurant, will be served from 12:30 – 1:30 pm.

Members are encouraged to bring family and friends. Activities are planned for kids and prizes will be awarded. There will be model airplane contests and face painting for children.

This first-time event replaces our Annual Banquet, which will now be scheduled every other year.

Our Open House planning team will be contacting members – asking for your help. Yes, while Aviator's is catering our main course meal, we are inviting aviation themed side dishes and desserts.

Do you have a special recipe for everyone to enjoy? Think of jazzy names like: Cessna Salad, Cirrus Chips, Beech Beans, Mooney Munchies or Piper Pies!

Dale Terry, Newsletter Editor

Open House & Family Day

November 12th

KSAC Headquarters

11:00 am - 2:00 pm



Every year Squadron members are involved in numerous community outreach activities. Flying international students (as I did above), supporting UCD's ROTC program (as seen below),



And awarding scholarship grants.

OPEN HOUSE & FAMILY DAY SCHEDULE

Calling all creative cooks!!

Join your squadron mates at
our Open House & Family Day
and bring a side dish or
dessert.

Contact our event planning
team with your tasty dish:

Annette Terry is coordinating
the meal - 916-947-4466,
Aknouswimmer@gmail.com.

Open House schedule:

11:00 - 12:00 noon

>> Exhibits inside Hut

11:30 - 12:00 pm

>> Static displays

12:30 - 1:30

>> Lunch

Exhibits

Static Displays

Food

Seeing friends

Activities



From our mailbox:

Thanks!

A letter from Tenley Ong, scholarship award winner

"I am writing to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for selecting me as one of the scholarship recipients for the first-ever Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Scholarship of \$2,500.

By awarding me with the 2023 scholarship, you lightened my financial burden, which allowed me to focus on the most important aspect of my career: flight training and learning.

I hope to continue to represent the program with the hopes of seeing its success through.

Your generosity has further sparked my own inspiration to pay-it-forward and give back to the community as others have done for me. My next goal is to earn my CFI/CFII, so that I can teach and help others pursue their passion for aviation. One day, I too hope to start a scholarship program.

This has made a tremendous difference in my life. Thank you again for everything.

Sincerely, Tenley Ong"



I am happy to share that through this scholarship, I finished up my Instrument Rating with DPE Ashley Snider in May 2023! I used the remainder of the funds toward my Multi Engine Rating, which I earned on July 20, 2023, on the way to Oshkosh at Riggins Flight Service. The scholarship helped cover the cost of flight training, aircraft rental and DPE fees.

The SCSAS Scholarship Program is going to impact the community so much and in both tangible and intangible ways. I'm excited to see it grow and change the lives of aspiring pilots.

Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Newsletter is published monthly. Dale Terry, Editor. Have a story other members would love to read – pass it along.



RON RICHEY: VIEW FROM THE LEFT SEAT

(Ed. Note: Long time Squadron member Ron Richey is best known as “Around the Squadron” editor. Now, he shares stories from his flying bag of memories.)

Flying to Mexico: ole’

I have been flying to Mexico in GA aircraft since the early 1980’s either in owned airplanes or with friends in theirs.

I have flown south of the border in V-35B Bonanzas, a Piper 250 Comanche (once owned by Air Squad Safety Officer, Captain Jack Birch...which is still flying off Exec today), a Cessna 340 (owned by Chuck Asbury), two Beech D-55 Barons owned in partnership with Kelly Couch and Ray Redden, a hot rod Aerostar 601P, and a Cessna Citation 550 (owned by Jim Teel) and my current ride.....a Beech A36 Bonanza.

Most destinations were either to go fishing along Baja or down the mainland side to locations on the Sea of Cortez. We still own a fractional ownership in a small condo on the beach in San Carlos...which is near the Guaymas airport. (MMGM)

In the earlier days, it seemed much easier to cross the border than it does today. Back then it was an exciting adventure traveling to a foreign country that was considered somewhat mysterious with unknown customs and procedures. Yet in reality all you needed was the normal documents pertaining to flying, such as your pilot and medical certificates, aircraft airworthiness paperwork and of course the mandatory Mexican Insurance policy, which could be purchased for the duration of your trip or annually for a nominal fee.

When flying down to Guaymas from KSAC in a V-tail Bonanza, I would fly directly to Mexicali (MMML) for fuel and clearing into the country. The Mexican paperwork was not that onerous, you had to file a flight plan, pay various fees to ‘import’ your airplane into Mexico, get your tourist visas and you were on your way in about an hour or less.

The 2–3-hour flight south over stark barren desert for the first 45 minutes turned into interesting sightseeing after crossing the northern most part of the Sea of Cortez and then following the shoreline down to the San Carlos area before making the turn to land at MMGM.

Of course, it was mandatory to make a low pass across the beach in front of the condo, letting the folks there know it was time for them to pick you up at the airport.

After making this trip numerous times, I found it was easier to land either at Thermal (KTRM) or Imperial (KIPL) for fuel, contact San Diego radio when crossing the border and then checking in with Mexicali tower telling them I was headed to Guaymas.

Mexicali tower operator would tell you to call him back when 30 DME south and from there to contact Hermosillo (MMHO) approach when reaching their airspace. Everything was pretty casual enroute and the same after landing at MMGM and going through the in-country check-in process.

Today flying south of the border has become a far more regulated and zero tolerance procedures dealing with Homeland Security, USCBP and the Mexican government.

First off, you must file an Advanced Passenger Information System Report (eAPIS) at least 60 minutes before departure and cannot take off until you have received official notice that you are cleared to go. The eAPIS must be filed for both directions.... going to and returning from Mexico. Apparently, the fines and penalties for not filing correctly are quite steep.

My recommendation would be to check out the origination known as Baja Bush Pilots if you are a first timer to Mexico. They have all the latest up to date information on what is happening in Mexico including Notams, phone numbers and frequencies for all the port of entry airports and most importantly, their website has the eAPIS template you can use...and they will file it to the various agencies for you which saves a lot of grief.

Flying to Mexico is still a great adventure that has to be on one’s bucket list; you just need to be prepared on what the current requirements are before you head south for a hassle-free trip.