



SERVING THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SHERIFF SINCE 1941

Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron Newsletter

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

Last time:

RARA puts on final air show at Reno-Stead

The Reno Air Racing Association (RARA) will put on a final air show on October 4-6. This show will commemorate six decades of racing at Reno-Stead Airport.



Although this is a non-racing event, enthusiasm is high due to two military demo teams attending – US Navy Blue Angels and the Canadian Royal Air Force Snowbirds.

Many civilian performers will be at the show, including Tucker's Air Patrol, famous for their barnstorming aerobatics.

Back in March 2023 the Reno-Tahoe Airport Authority decided to end the Reno Air Races competition in Reno – started in 1964. Why? Challenges included increased insurance costs and regional growth surrounding Reno-Stead Airport.

Looking to the future, the RARA has selected Roswell Air Center (KROW), Roswell, NM as the air races new home, beginning in 2025.

KROW was developed during WWII and later, during the cold war, became the largest base used by US Air Force Strategic Air Command (SAC). The huge airfield has lots of flat ground and allows RARA opportunities to try new things.

The airfield also serves as a storage facility for retired airlines. And was the site where Felix Baumgartner performed his record-breaking freefall jump from the stratosphere in 2012.

Before RARA moves to New Mexico, the 2024 air show promises to be quite a spectacle and for the first time will include a Friday evening show.

Dale Terry, Newsletter Editor

John McGinness

Past Sacramento County Sheriff &

KFBK radio personality

October 16, 5:30 pm

KSAC Squadron Headquarters



John McGinness served with the SSO for 31 years and was decorated by the department following many high profile assignments.

John will share insights into California law enforcement trends and reflect on how becoming a radio talk show host has impacted his life.

Smash-and-grab robbery, immigration reform and other hot topics are sure to be included in his presentation.

Commander's Column:



Honoring a "Triple Ace"

On August 1st a new memorial statue was unveiled in honor of a local hero and Squadron friend – Brigadier General "Bud" Anderson. Placed at McKnight Crossing shopping center in Grass Valley, the life size bronze statue was created by Bud's close friend and artist Doug Van Howd.



The statue honors "Bud" in his WWII leather flying helmet and goggles with a parachute on his back.

Passing through Grass Valley? This is a nice stop to make and remember our friend "Bud."



Anderson's aircraft flown in WWII still is honored at many aviation events. Past Commander, **Ken Lux**, took this photo of "Old Crow" P-51 at this year's Oshkosh fly-in.

Calling all golfers

Sacramento County Sheriff's Foundation is holding a golf Tournament, Monday, October 28th at Valley Hi Country Club, Elk Grove.

Our Squadron will be hosting a booth at the event and is looking for members to man the booth. And, if you would like to participate in our foursome, we are also looking to put together our best golf team.

Interested? Contact Kevin Phillips at: Kevin.Phillips@sacairsquadron.com.

Happy Birthday to Auburn Airport

Auburn Airport is celebrating its 90th birthday on October 12th. To help celebrate, our Squadron will be setting up our display booth hoping to attract new member prospects. Would you like to help work at our booth? Contact Dale Terry: Dale.terry@sacairsquadron.com.

Fishing Tournament in Lodi

Retired SSO Captain Wayne Ikeuchi has a nice fishing opportunity coming up this month. This is a fishing tournament held annually at Tower Park, Jelly Stone Park in Lodi. The date is Saturday, October 26th.

Proceeds from the event go to The Mark Stasyuk Foundation which honors deputy Mark Stasyuk who lost his life in the line of duty while on a call for service in Rancho Cordova.



Besides fishing, the park offers camping and lots of family-oriented activities.

Use the QR code below to access more info.



Annual Meeting

Our Squadron's by-laws required annual meeting will be held during our October 16th meeting at KSAC headquarters.

Members are invited to bring up any items they would like to discuss with Squadron officers.

The proposed slate of 2025 officers will be announced at this meeting.

Shawn Britton, Commander

Around the Squadron: Members remember Reno Races

(Ed. Note: In between our September picnic and tour of Rancho Seco Nuclear site, our Newsletter editor talked with members about their remembrances of Reno Air Races.)



Shawn Britton – “My favorite part of the races was watching the P51 Mustangs. Hearing those engines roar over the hill and flying by the

crowds was amazing.”



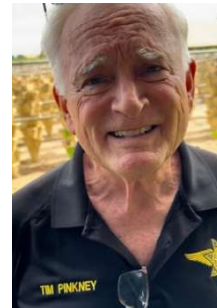
Ken Lux – “I started going to the air races when I was about 6 years old – I went almost every year with my dad. Art Schol and his Chipmunk aircraft,

plus his dog Aileron were among my favorite performers.”



Steve Throne – “What I remember is just seeing the incredible planes. I also remember hearing about the 2011 crash involving The Galloping Ghost P51 Mustang. A tragic accident – but

that’s what happens at Reno – low risk, low reward.”



Tim Pinkney – “I was at the races during the 2011 aircraft crash. The pilot flew by the home stretch pylon, came overhead, turned around and went inverted. I thought that was weird – he

was coming towards me. I was taking pictures, threw down my camera and jumped into the bleachers. When the plane exploded, I got hit with debris. I took some pictures right after the crash and the scene was terrible.”



Lisa Simpson – “I remember being on the pit crew for sport class racer Lee Ulrich – it was an all-woman pit crew, and he took gold. That was two years

ago. It was cool!”



Ron Richey – “We started going to the races in the ‘60s with airline Capt. Jack Birch. We would fly up in his Commanche. I remember that we would fly up to Reno with lots of boxes – it

was so windy and cold some years, that we would wrap the boxes around us to keep warm. Later, they moved the race date later in the year when it was warmer – and I was thankful they did.”



Rancho Seco Tour:

Food, fellowship, and field trip



Picnic fellowship at Davis Ranch, Steve Throne tries his hand at actual Rancho Seco control panel, Hunter Jefferson views exhibit showing Rancho Seco under full operation prior to decommission.



Clockwise photos: Tom Jones inspects massive rebar used in nuclear containment building, SMUD Manager Ernie Miller describes to Stan Stewart control rods used in nuclear reactor, Squadron members get first view of Rancho Seco work site, outside nuclear storage facility with power lines in background carrying 75% of Sacramento County power to customers from adjacent gas fired power plant.



Squadron class photo between 400+ foot dual cooling towers, Julie Circle studies caution signage outside nuclear storage facility, Tim Pinkney gauges the thickness of 48" containment building walls.



BY CHIEF DEPUTY DAN DONELLI: VIEW FROM SHERIFF'S HEADQUARTERS

(Ed. Note: Chief Deputy Dan Donelli, a 30-year department veteran, works on the Command Staff within Sacramento County Sheriff's Office responsible for Field and Investigative Services and serves as the liaison between our Squadron and the Sheriff.)

Our outstanding relationship

Some people may wonder how our department views the Sheriff's Air Squadron. Is there a commitment to building our organizational relationship?

The simple and honest answer is, absolutely yes!

The Sheriff's Office relationship with the Air Squadron goes back many, many years. During these years we have collectively built a relationship based upon candor, collaboration and trust.

Collaborating on disadvantaged youth programs is a high point for the Sheriff and his Office. The Air Squadron's efforts this summer, in conjunction with the Aerospace Museum, provided an opportunity for kids to see some of the many advantages of a career in aviation.

Today, we see our Air Squadron relationship as a long-term continuous effort. We know SAS is not a one-and-done organization.

Maintaining a clear line of communication helps the Sheriff's Office outreach to communities you're your

members live in. Helping Sacramento area citizens understand the Sheriff's role, events hitting the news media and changes in area policing are real aids in Sheriff's Office outreach.

Unforeseen events happen. When they do, the Sheriff's Office knows that Air Squadron aircraft and pilots are available to assist our Air Operations Division.

While Flights to Freedom is a new organization, we see the Air Squadron as a natural tie-in – providing key transportation to at-risk victims of abuse. Ken Lux, past Air Squadron Commander, and now Executive Director of Flight to Freedom keeps us advised on the success stories now taking place.

Law enforcement agencies grapple with a range of challenges – crime rates, budget constraints, qualified personnel and community relations. Having an organization such as the Air Squadron members as friends is great.

Our Office is committed to regional law enforcement and the concept of mutual

aid. Crime does not stop at the county line – and mutual aid between law enforcement agencies takes place every day.

I encourage the Air Squadron to think of your community service to public safety as having the potential to benefit a wide range of partners. Both Placer and El Dorado counties are close to our border and could potentially benefit from your involvement. CHP, fire and other emergency services all need the benefit of neighbor-helping-neighbor.

Within the Air Squadron, your educational program is top-notch. Speakers at monthly meetings have helped me and other Sheriff's office leaders understand the wide range of aviation activities.

The Sacramento Sheriff's Office values our relationship with the Air Squadron. You have helped us with our role of community involvement and service.

Professor Uli and German exchange students

On September 21st, 20 German exchange students attending seminars with Squadron member Prof. Uli Luenemann took to the sky with past and present Squadron members for a Northern California orientation flight. The students are part of an International Relations curriculum taught by Ulli at California State University, Sacramento. The flying tour included Lake Tahoe and San Francisco Bay Area.

Aircraft were supplied by **Shawn Britton, Ron Richey, Stan Stewart, Curt Siggard and Dale Terry**. The group was thrilled to see our area from the air. Since many of the students were from Northern Germany where geography is rather flat, seeing our Sierra Nevada mountains was a treat. The weather for flying was perfect with light winds over the mountains, clear skies and mild temperatures. A far cry from the typical Northern Germany climate where it is rainy and cloudy during the summer months.

For many of the students the flight was their first experience on a general aviation aircraft, which made their outing an unforgettable experience.



German visitors fly with Dale Terry over Lake Tahoe. Uli tries out the cockpit of Kelly Couch's Auto Gyro – a rotorcraft that uses an unpowered rotor.