



July 2006

PROPWASH

Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Pilots Association

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President's Post'its:



Airport Day 2005

Fellow Pilots,

A hot item! My wife and I flew to O61 (Cameron Park, east of SAC) this last weekend. It was an interesting process and good preparation for flying to OSH. We found temperatures of 105 recorded in the shade next to the tarmac in Cameron Park. The temperature was as high as the fuel prices were low which helped with the temperature of the pilot when filling the plane. A big help in our flight out and back was the addition of a new S-Tec 30 hooked up to the GPS, NAV, and heading bug. My wife enjoyed the straight line flight over my wandering over new sights. You all know the joy of letting the plane go where you look instead of where you plan. I firmly believe the AP saved at least 15 minutes each way because of my normal wandering.

About seven pilots and friends leave this week for Oshkosh, all braving very high desert temperatures and long hours sitting. Rock & Ruth leave in the L12A in a few days following a more central route, we'll meet up with them at OSH.

Oscar Bayer, Pat Yancey, Dave Chivens and I will fly out Thursday morning as soon as the fog clears. We're planning two hour hops for fuel, drinks, and a little stretch. Long gone are the five to six hour hops where the bottom feels leaden and the feet grow numb along with a couple of other senses. The trip is in a very loose formation and will be interesting and informative for yours truly. I've never been to the Mecca of aviation, OSH. The papers indicate over 10,000 planes expected and about 700,000 people over the week. If that holds true it will be a joy just watching the antics of fellow pilots.

Airport Day is set for the 30th of September. We will have music, flag ceremony, a dedication to the memory of Wanda Strassburg, and many planes. The following BBQ at the Jet Center should be a nice way to spend a few hours after the airport day winds down.



SLOPA News

I would again ask anyone who is interested in or asked to be active as a volunteer or officer with this organization, don't hesitate - - it is a pleasure working with such talented and interested people. We are working as a unit to support GA in San Luis Obispo. We will have a great effect on this airport if we pull together, work together, fly together, and support those who support the general aviation groups in our county.

Thank you,

John Eichler – President SLOPA

Though I may be a little late on this, to aid in John's packing efforts I've included "Hints for Camping at Oshkosh," graciously contributed by fellow pilot, Jonathan Paul, based in Monterey. I found Jonathan's web site while cruising the Internet searching for such hints. His web site is www.jonathanpaul.org. Thanks again, Jonathan.

New Director

Please join us in welcoming John Ziegler as our new Director on the SLOPA Board of Directors. John volunteered for the position at our April General Meeting, during a moment of questionable sanity. Actually, John is a great addition to the board and we all look forward to working with him. High-fives to John.

April's General Meeting

Speaking of last April's SLOPA General Meeting and barbecue, it was a meet and greet success, and a delicious way to bust my South Beach Diet, thanks to the terrific cooks from SLO Kiwanis de Tolosa. Approximately seventy members participated in the meeting. SLOPA President, John Eichler presided over the meeting, which included a presentation by California Pilot Association President, Ed Rosiak. Ed updated us on challenges facing many Calif. airports, and stressed the importance of pilot unity through such groups as SLOPA and the California Pilots Association. FYI, The membership price for joining the California Pilots Association is \$25.00 for the first year for SLOPA members, which is \$10.00 off the normal price. Ed also contributed a letter to this issue of Propwash. Please see below.



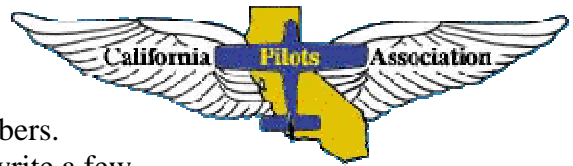
Airport Day Volunteers Needed

As John Eichler mentioned, SLO Airport Day is set for Saturday, September 30th, 10am to 4pm. If you are interested in helping man the SLOPA booth, please contact SLOPA Vice-President, Tim Williams at vp@slopilots.org or 805-540-5195.

Airport Access Cards

According to the San Luis Obispo Airport General Services Department, all current access codes will expire Friday, July 28, and once expired, they will not be reactivated. In an effort to increase security, the Transportation Security Administration has mandated that all Part 135 airports get a greater handle on airport accessibility. And that is precisely what this new access system is designed to do. Being the independent bunch we pilots are, these extra security steps may take a little getting use to, and most likely a few extra calls to the folks in the General Services Department. These new cards give you access to any of the usual access gates. However, if you do not access a particular gate for ninety days, access for that gate will be deactivated. So, if you need to go to an area on the airport you haven't visited for awhile, give General Services a call and they will reactivate your card immediately. In fact, do not hesitate to contact General Services with any questions or concerns. We pilots may lose some of our spontaneity, but these new procedures may also prevent the potential disaster of a Sunday driver inadvertently visiting The Spirit of San Luis via taxi way echo. Contact Airport Management: 805-781-5205 or staff@sloairport.com.

From the Desk of Ed Rosiak



I would like to send my regards to all SLOPA Members.

Your newsletter editor, Bruce Brown, asked me to write a few paragraphs for this newsletter, and he actually left the content up to me, so here goes.

First, I would like to reiterate that it was a pleasure to attend the SLOPA meeting back in April (seems like a long time ago now doesn't it?). I hope that everyone is doing well, and that everyone is actively participating in the SLOPA organization. It is of paramount importance that one and all do what he/she can to insure that SLOPA maintains its momentum. By the way, I often use that meeting as an example of how to draw people to a meeting because it was very well done by your leadership.

I would also like to put a pitch in for the SLOPA newsletter. It is an important part of any organization as it provides communication to the membership, as well as non-members, who may be considering joining. As a newsletter editor, I can tell you it is a difficult job trying to get articles submitted. I think people are worried about grammar and such, but the text editor's are so good these days it really shouldn't be an issue. So go ahead and submit the articles and/or ideas you have, Bruce will thank you.

In June I attended a Pilot Org President's Summit Meeting in Boise. The president's from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Utah and California all attended. We shared issues and successes, and one of the positive points which arose was that the newsletter is very important to all of their organizations. Interestingly enough, the aviation issues of these states pale in comparison to ours, but then we have more airports and pilots so that makes sense.

Finally I would like to invite each and every one of you to the California Pilots Association's Annual Meeting October 6-7 at Santa Maria Airport. Friday evening wine tasting- Saturday meeting. We have a great line up this year with interesting speakers and afternoon forums where you will learn more about the issues GA faces in our state. We have worked with the Radisson on the field to get room discounts, and there will be fuel discounts too. Plus, it is so close there is no excuse not to attend. Please watch our web site (www.calpilots.org) for more details. I hope to see all of you there.

Ed Rosiak
President- California Pilots Association

Santa Barbara TRACON Update



November 2, 2005 will be a date we at Santa Barbara TRACON will remember for a long time. On this date the TRACON airspace more than doubled in size. Since this date we have learned much about the airspace between San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara. Many of the lessons learned came from the Pilots in the new airspace. Together we are forging a long lasting bond that will insure that this area will not be left behind for future growth and safety concerns.

Santa Barbara TRACON accepted two new Radar systems within the last few months. The Radars are new ASR-11's. One at Santa Barbara Airport and the other located at Santa Maria Airport. The Santa Maria Radar is providing Radar coverage for the airspace from Santa Ynez to San Luis Obispo.

Pilots have called and have even stopped by the TRACON to tell us what a good job we are doing. IFR delays are almost nonexistent. Practice approaches are on the increase. As for VFR flight following, well, I have not seen one turned down. As we learn more and more about the Airspace, and the pilots needs, it has gotten easier.

The future of Santa Barbara TRACON is up in the air for now. There have been discussions within the FAA about moving the TRACON to Las Vegas or San Diego due to budget matters. The Controllers at Santa Barbara will resist this move for as long as we can. As Controllers at Santa Barbara, we enjoy our small town feeling in a State of the Art TRACON.

From Gordon Thompson – TRACON Support Specialist. Gordon encourages us all to come down for a tour of the new facility. To set up a tour, Gordon can be reached at 805-681-0534.

Upcoming Events

July 24-30: Oshkosh EAA Airventure 2006.

August 25-27: Santa Maria Air Show.

September 13-14: Reno Air Races.

September 30: San Luis Obispo Airport Day.

October 6-7: California Pilots Association General Meeting, Santa Maria Airport.

And watch your e-mails for details regarding the next SLOPA General Meeting.

Hints for Camping at Oshkosh

Here is what I bring to Oshkosh and some comments. This is a complete kit. If you are traveling "light" not everything is necessary, especially if you are not cooking. I personally think a camp table and chairs is the difference between civilized and roughing it.

Aircraft Tie Down Kit (bring it or you buy one there)

Extra tent tie-down stakes and nylon rope.

Air mattress, cot or sleeping pads

Folding Camp Table

Battery or Propane Lantern Flashlights

Cooking Pots and Pans

Styrofoam ice chest (or equivalent)

Cooking utensils (spatula, cutting board, can opener, knife, etc.).

Paper products: Paper towels, napkins

Canopy and Poles (good as sun shade or rain protection).

Tool kit, duct tape, bailing wire, (you never know...)



Dome Tent

Sleeping Bags

Folding aluminum chairs

Propane Stove

5 Gallon plastic water bag

Coffee pot

Plates, glasses, mugs, flatware

Wash basin and liquid soap

Aluminum foil

Plastic Garbage bags

Hammer (for tent stakes)



Other Hints and Information

I also bring in a basic supply of non perishable food supplies, e.g. coffee, cooking oil, spices, etc. But I buy most everything else at the supermarket, within a 5 minute walk from the pedestrian gate next to the Hilton. All food can be purchased there, as well as other supplies that you have forgotten.

There is the camp store on the grounds where you can buy ice and incidentals.

Open fires are not allowed. If you are going to cook, you need a gas stove. Water is provided in about every 20 rows in portable tanks (water buffalo). Portable toilets are placed about every five rows. A bus service provides transportation from your plane to the convention entrance, to the showers, and to the supermarket gate. There are three or four community shower facilities on the grounds. In prior years, they did not charge for camping above row 75 (or so). EAA Membership saves you a bundle on entrance fees.

You can buy all your meals at the many concession stands on the convention grounds. But sometime the wait is VERY LONG and the food is basically fast food. There are a few restaurants within walking distance of the airport but they tend to also be very crowded at meal times.

Helpful hints courtesy of Jonathan Paul.

Acknowledgments

A hardy thanks to all of this issue's contributors:

Ed Rosiak – President, California Pilots Association.

Gordon Thompson – Support Specialist, Santa Barbara Tracon

Jonathan Paul – Mooney enthusiast, Monterey, Calif.

Please send articles, story ideas and comments to Propwash Editor, Bruce Brown at Propwash@slopilots.com, or call Bruce at 474-1408. Propwash will be published quarterly with plans, eventually, for monthly issues. In an effort to promote general aviation to the general public, I would especially appreciate hearing from pilots associated with altruistic organizations, etc. for future issues. Thank you for your continued support. Bruce Brown

San Luis Obispo Pilots Association

www.slopilots.org



Spirit of San Luis Restaurant

Located at the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport, the Spirit is at the center of activity for area business, aviation, families and travelers who love its friendly atmosphere and great food. Sit on the patio and watch the world come and go by air or inside where a century of aviation history decorates the walls.

Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner, anytime is great to get "the Spirit".

925 Airport Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA. 805-549-9466.

Hours M-Sa 7am-8pm, Sunday 9am-8pm

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