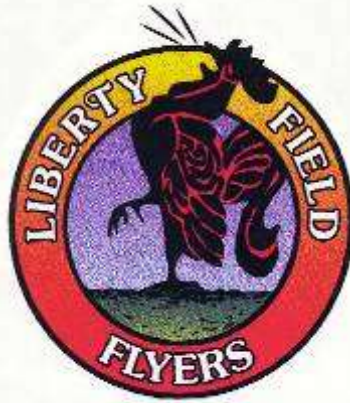


Liberty Field Flyers May 2007 Newsletter



Newsletter

USUA Club #3 EAA Chapter #106

Officers:

President: Les Goldner
Vice Pres.: Bim Lipp
Secretary: Mark Johnson
Treasurer: Vic Bologna

May 5th Cloverdale Fly/drive-in Meeting Notice

This is one of the best attended events of the year. Almost the entire club participated last year. Since so many of us will show up, we will have our club meeting at Cloverdale rather than meeting on the following Saturday (our normal meeting date).

The event is hosted by Quality Sports Planes, the west-coast arm of Zenith Aircraft. Zenith makes all metal LSA kits. (Three of our members have Zenith CH701s or kits). This Cloverdale Quality Sport Planes fly-in's BBQ is a lot of fun and a good source of revenue for our club each year since we run the BBQ and keep the \$5 all-you-can-eat lunch donation. Liberty Field Flyers and our friends eat free. Vic, with Bim's assistance, will run the BBQ. They will need help from the rest of us, since a big turn-out is expected.

QSP will have demos of metal aircraft construction techniques and experts who can answer questions. The food for the BBQ is provided by Chris Desmond, who is associated with QSP and is also one of our members

Those flying from Petaluma to Cloverdale will depart at 9:30AM. Michael Heintz, who runs QSP, has asked us to take tie downs and park away from his display area in front of his the QSP hanger. The club will try to provide rope tie-downs, but its best if you bring your own.

To find out more about QSP's open house and to get driving instructions to Cloverdale Airport, go to http://www.qualitysportplanes.com/qsp-2006_067.htm.

June 9th Meeting Notice

Although there won't be a June Newsletter, we will have our regular meeting on June 9th, after returning from the Mendocino Fly-in (see details in *Club Events Planned for 2007*). At this meeting Don has agreed to show his tell-all hi-def flying videos. He has been taking hi-def videos during his flights for almost a year now and is itching for a chance to show them. Since Don takes great videos, and is a fearless flyer willing to go almost anywhere to get a good shot, the show should be very interesting.

The meeting will be at our regular time and date (the second Saturday at 4:30-PM in either Gordon's hanger or the airport office).

Unapproved Minutes of the April 14th Meeting

By Mark Johnson

Les Goldner called our 4/14/07 LFUF Meeting to order at 4:30-PM in the airport office. There were 16 people in attendance.

We introduced ourselves and gave a warm welcome to our guest speaker, Tom McCall.

Tom introduced himself by first explaining he has been and will again be a member of the Petaluma Airport Commission and an AOPA (Aircraft Owners & Pilots Assoc.) representative. He mentioned how the AOPA supports the rights of all flyers at the federal, state and local levels. They work to keep the skies open to pilots of all ratings and he encouraged us all to join the AOPA. He went on to say AOPA was founded in the 1930s to keep regulations to a minimum. For instance, user fees are again being discussed that would apply to all pilots and the AOPA is fighting to stop its enactment.

He also mentioned how the Airport Commission and AOPA are trying to educate the Petaluma City Council on the hazards of putting a Super Sport Complex near the airfield right under the UL/LSA pattern. He thinks federal Laws may prohibit such a proposal but the City may move ahead with it unless very strong opposition can be mustered. We offered our support and he said he would contact us after a Tuesday the 17th meeting with the city Council. He was quite enlightening and we learned a lot from him so he was very well received. He then left the meeting and we went to old and new business.

OLD BUSINESS

The March meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Les mentioned how successful the Turlock get-together was. There were about 20 people there, the food was good, and there were water bomb and spot landing contests. Les thanked Andre M. for setting up the event.

Coming home from Turlock, Les and Mark got stranded for a night in Tracy due to the high afternoon winds. The next morning they flew out with the hot air balloonists at Tracy.

Les also mentioned how he and Mark flew to Lodi to inspect and replace his prop shaft and they had a wonderful day there meeting all the local flyers and seeing their planes

NEW BUSINESS

We discussed the up-coming flights to various places. The Mendocino fly-in has been postponed until June 9th. The upcoming Cloverdale fly-in was discussed (see information above). The flight to Castle AFB museum for open-cockpit and we were told that the Golden West EAA show and fly-in in Marysville will cater to ULs and LSAs this year. The July 14th BBQ at Harvey's place was also discussed. (Information about these events is described below).

Jim Grimes made note of the upcoming antique auto show at Pillar Point (Half Moon Bay) and also some of his Aircoupe fly-ins including one last week to Calaveras airport and a fathers day in.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45-PM

Club Events Planned for 2007

Events planned as of this date are shown chronologically below:

This is our special events calendar. Note that we can fly or drive to most of the events and those of us with an extra seat volunteer to take club member passengers.

Also note that club members meet every Saturday at about 9:30-AM when there are no special events for a pilot's choice fly-outs.

May 5th Cloverdale Fly/Drive-in

See details at the beginning of this Newsletter.

May 26-27th (Sat-Sun) Open Cockpit Day at Castle AFB Museum.

We plan to fly up on Saturday, May 26th and spend Sunday morning looking into a variety of war planes (mostly heavy bombers) before flying back at in the afternoon. Castle was a B-52 base and some of us could land perpendicular on its huge runway! There is an almost unbelievable variety of planes on display. I think they have every US bomber from B17 to B1. You can see a rear SR-71 Blackbird and also see many of the British and US air force's fighters from WW-II to the present. (Not certain yet who will lead this trip.)

We want to stay at the Temporary Officers Quarters (\$30.night) but are unable to make reservations until mid May because active military personnel have priority. We can find for this trip.

June 9th Flight to Mendocino.

This event was rescheduled due to weather. Don will coordinate our flight to Little River, near Mendocino. We will fly different out and inbound routes on this 95-mile flight. We leave Petaluma at 8:30-Am and fly up via Cloverdale, a half-way point, where some of us may need to gas-up or use of the head. Coming home it is likely we will fly the coast non-stop since it should go faster with following winds and we should not need extra gas.

At Little River we will be able to get fuel and take a cab into the historic Mendocino for lunch. We plan to leave Little River at 1:00PM so that we will be back in Petaluma well before our 4:30-PM monthly meeting.



The 95 Mile flight out of Petaluma

June 30-July 1st (Sat-Sun) EAA's Golden West Air Show Fly-in.

We have flown and driven to Marysville for this show in prior years, and have had good turn-outs. This fly-in is a great source of information and ideas, and the airshow is worth seeing. Several of us have camped out to make the Fly-in a two-day event. This year we expect better facilities and services for ULs.

Note that there are special restrictions and a temporary FAA tower for the show and that UL/LSA aircraft have their own runway that is outside of the tower's domain.

July 14th BBQ's at Harvey's air strip

Again this year we will plan a BBQ for members and their guests. Vic is considering obtaining a food cart for the club. Details to be announced. Another BBQ may be held at Quality Sport Plane in Cloverdale in October if we are invited to the event.

August 18-19 Lake Pillsbury Camp-out.

Les will plan this one. Lake Pillsbury's Gravelly Valley airport, a big wide unimproved 2000' high gravel strip, surrounded by a lake and State parks, provides good camping either under the wing of your plane or at nearby campsites. The lake is about 90 miles north of Petaluma. Several of our UL and GA members participated and had a good time in the past and this is a good opportunity to get up close and personal with the local elk.

The only negative is the need to top 4500' over a mountainous area as you approach the 1900' high lake.

Other Activities (provided by Jim Grimes)

- Watsonville 43rd annual Fly-In on Memorial Day weekend (May 25th- 27th)
- The 50th Annual Merced Antique Fly-In, June 1-2.
- Columbia Airport Fathers Day (& EOC Region 7) Fly-In
- Watsonville Fly-in on Memorial Day weekend! AVgas will be discounted \$1.00 per gallon

Light Sport Plane Progress

Four club members, Don, Mark, Gordon, and Charlie are ready to apply for airworthiness certs. Denny Pollard from Oakland FAA FSDO plans to make the trip to Petaluma in mid May to anoint all four of their aircraft to LSA status in a single day.

Using Google to Visualize Your Flight

Information provided by Chris Desmond

Recently Chris D. flew his CH701 to Rancho Murrieta in the Central Valley and was able to use Google Earth with information from his GPS and a package called *City Navigator* to show his approach to the airport. We don't have the City Navigator package, so we can't show his specific approach, but an example of what this looks like follows.



To learn more about this, go to

http://www.vansairforce.net/articles/GPS_Tracking/GPSTrack.htm

Want to Fly Your UL/LSA to Arizona?

A group of "dedicated" UL/LSA pilots who operate out of Lodi plan to fly over the Sierra Mountains and other ranges on an 1100+ mile sojourn to Page AZ. From this destination, the group plans to fly over Monument Valley and the Painted Desert. While excited about taking this trip, there are concerns about the need to climb over 9000' mountains and fly over deserts where fuel stops are few and far between. Safety measures include GA chase planes and careful planning.

The flight is scheduled for May 17th through 21st. Anyone interested in joining should email the trip coordinator, Mark Huntley (mark@huntleyfamily.net)

Our Club now has 3-members with Zenith CH701s

Andre M. announced that he has ordered a partially completed Zenith CH701, which he will have this summer. Congratulations Andre! Les is building a 701 (see pic below) and Chris D. has his "lizard plane" (see pic below). Even though these planes have 80 to 110 HP engines and can top-out over 100-MPH, they can fly slowly and land in short fields to fly with slower LSA in our club.



Chris Desmond's Lizard plane with Chris at the controls



Les's garage filled with his 701 'project" (note wings hanging behind fuselage.

Notable Snaps



Jim and Tony next to "their" P51 at Calaveras Airport during a fly-in last month.



Les at 9500' going to 10,000' over Liberty Field looking SE. (Petaluma AP bottom left)



Mark dodging windmills south of Travis AFB. Soon after this pic, he had to dodge C5s



Charlie touching down at 2-Rock field



(Top)The mules at 2-rock field. (Bottom) Mule thoughtfully eyeing Mark. (Mark said he thought the mule was cute too)

[LFUF's Roster](#)

The roster has been updated and full copies are available to members at the Cloverdale Fly-in.