



## **JUNE 12th 2021**

# **NEWSLETTER**

### **OFFICERS**

**President:** Nishant Ghaiy  
**Vice President:** Mark Johnson  
**Secretary:** to be determined  
**Treasurer:** Damien Radford  
**Newsletter:** Mark Johnson  
**Technical Advisor:** Bill Sherlock  
**Flight Adviser:** Marlin Jones

Saturday we will fly out (weather permitting) at 10:00. And we will be back in Petaluma at 12:30 for lunch at 1 PM near the manager's office... And will have no-charge Pizza (thanks to Mark & the club)!

## **Please pay your club dues!**

If you have not yet paid our LFF dues for 2021, please do it now! We made it much much easier to pay them this year since Damien was able to arrange for on-line payment at our club website. To pay your meager \$20 just [click here](#). This will take you to our website and where you can pay-up in under a minute. If you don't want to take advantage of this, just sent \$20 to Damien Redford, our Treasurer, at 3 Via Oneg, Lafayette, CA, 94549.

**THIS MONTH WE DECIDED TO FEATURE OUR CLUB'S GODFATHER WHO HELPED US FOR OVER 25 YEARS!**

LFUF  
INTERVIEWS

“ace”  
of the month

BUD STORDAHL



Bud and his Pup.



Bud and his Easy Rizer.

**LFUF: How did you get into Ultralights?**

My first solo was in 1949 in an Aronica Champ. Three years later, I stopped flying for 25 years and In 1979 I decided I wanted to get into flying again. I saw a picture of an Easy Rizer and decided I wanted to get back into flying. Building and flying them were of equal importance to me so I started building an Easy Rizer. It only took a few months and I first learned to fly it as a glider pulled by my son on a motorcycle. The engines in those days were not very reliable and out of 4 trips around the pattern, only one was with full power! The other 3 trips ended in dead stick landings. After fixing the engines on that plane, I flew at both Oshkosh and Sun-n-Fun.

When I could no longer repair the Easy Rizer, it was time to build another ultralight. So after 5 years, I build an N-3 Pup. That one took 6 months to build and I often flew it off an icy lake in Michigan. That is the plane I brought to CA with me and flew at Liberty Field through 1995. I have been working on the Protech PT-2 ever since.

**LFUF: What were your most unusual trips?**

I had many trips with the Rizer where we would fly



Bud's wife is obviously a saint to allow this!



The Easy Rizer as a glider being pulled by Bud's son on a motorcycle!

from one shopping center parking lot to another. We would gas up and head for another lot, all day long. Since we were only allowed to be 155 lbs. and foot launched, our fuel tanks were only 7 quarts so you can imagine how many times we had to stop for fuel in those days.

One time while flying in Michigan at 1,200' a C-135 flew directly under me. He was at 800'. If he had been that far above me, I wouldn't be here to tell the story, because as you know, vortices go down.

I fondly remember poking holes in a cloud with Jack Kostelic over Bodega Bay. We then circled around to look at all the round holes in the long thin cloud.

One time in Michigan, three of us used a string of 4 or 5 hot air balloons as a sloughm course. We made several passes through them as they waved at us.

**LFUF: Are you planning to build another plane after the PT?**

No, now it is time to fly!

Next month we interview VIC BOLOGNA



Here is the last picture anyone ever took of him because he moved to Portland Oregon and got a job as a docent at Evergreen Co. where the SPRUCE GOOSE was housed!! Chris and Gordon flew up there to see him and his saintly wife Dottie so Bud could show them the inside of the plane (which they did at night!)



Here is the Bud Stordahl we all loved. Gordon said he was the smartest and nicest person he has ever known. In order to accommodate Gordon's plane in his hanger, Bud designed an electric hoist that lifted and lowered Gordon's plane effortlessly. Who do you know that is willing and capable of doing something like that?

**NOTE OF INTEREST:**

The FAA is proposing to forbid any instructions or Bi-Annuals in Experimental aircraft unless the owner receives special permissions to do so. Let's follow this one!

## NOW FOR THE MONTHLY PHOTOS



Here is Mark's only photo contribution this month because none of his shots worked. This one photo turned out to display the secret of Bill's genius!

Mark flew with Bill Sherlock Saturday. On his dashboard (upper left) it a cute, red, turtle that wiggles up and down constantly. Bill inherited it from Brenda Richard before she and her husband died in their plane crash.

Bill was close friends with Brenda. He admits that he often talks to the turtle as he flies. So of course I had to try talking to "her" and succeeded! Whenever I focused on her, that turtle turned to look only looked at me! I also noticed that when Bill had a complex landing to go thru, the turtle turned to him and told him what to do! So I suggest you all go get one of those turtles and do what it says in dangerous situations!



The ghostly looking hanger remains at Liberty Field, which is now an RC field, visited by Nishant



Nishant took the pic of our newest prospective club member, Victor, at Healdsburg 2-weeks ago



Victor and Nishant, flying in Victor's aircraft

**NOW FOR SOME PICS FROM BILL**



Sedona AP.

Bill said: " I really wanted to stop here as Brenda and I had done on its maiden voyage in 2013. Sadly, as I was about to land, an incident on the runway forced me to divert."



Typical Bill.

At our last club meeting Damien told us how Bill landed off airport to help a guy right his overturned plane and install replacement transmission parts and prop to enable him to takeoff. I don't know anyone else who would/could have done this.

## NOW, ONE FINAL PIECE OF INFORMATION

A former LFF, Tony Clarke, is building a landing strip for himself in the blurry part in the center of the pic below, about 200-miles south of us.



He said his tractor is being fixed and said; "I am hoping to begin working on the strip and the water system in the near future. There are a couple of repairs still to do on the dozer. "

Should we organize a trip south to assist Tony?