

THE RITE FLYER

MARTIN AIRFIELD

Washington DART delivers gear to health care workers

By David Tulis

The Washington Disaster Airlift Response Team celebrated 10 years of emergency preparedness training by delivering more than 3,000 face shields to [Walla Walla](#) health care workers and followed up with canine airlifts that transported more than a dozen dogs from Mexico to their U.S. “forever homes” in Seattle.

Pilots and volunteers unload donated personal protective equipment after it was flown from California to Walla Walla, Washington, with coordination from Washington Disaster Airlift Response Team members. The Washington DART is celebrating its tenth year of disaster preparedness training. Photo courtesy of Bill Herrington.

A contingent of aviators and other residents have [trained yearly](#) since 2010 to formulate a disaster plan in the event of a natural disaster such as an earthquake. Experts have predicted that the region is long overdue for what locals call “the big one.” In that scenario, violent shaking from an earthquake would last “approximately 100 seconds” and rattle downtown Seattle’s 18 buildings under construction that are “240 feet or taller.”



Their disaster training includes exercises where land-based and seaplane pilots combine their skills with the expertise of radio operators, logistics personnel, and others to ferry people and supplies from the area should an earthquake or other major natural disaster

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Calendar Items to share

Week Days	Coffee Club, Martin Field Pilot's Lounge, Cancelled until further notice
June 20	Fly-out to Fields Station in Harney County, Oregon with Chapter 219
June 20	Desert Aire's 50th anniversary Fly-in and Breakfast 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Coming Up ...

Meeting :

Monday , June 8th, 7:00 p.m. Online

Program: Ron Urban, Yellowstown

Board of Directors

June 6, 7:00 pm

Next Meeting:

July 13th, Martin Field 7:00 pm (hopefully)

Chapter Website:
chapters.eaa.org/ea604

2019 Officers

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- Vice President
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DART Delivers gear *continued*

occur.

Several pilots flew supplies from California to the Pacific Northwest in their personal single- and twin-engine air-



craft during a show of West Coast solidarity. The airlift mimicked how groups could help each other during another unplanned disaster, should the need arise.

“We are so appreciative of the collaboration and effort that went into delivering much-needed medical supplies to our community,” said Walla Walla County Emergency Management Director Liz Jessee. The department complimented the group of volunteers who recently delivered the protective gear to help medical workers on the front line of the coronavirus pandemic.

Pilot Bruce Phillips unloads donated personal protective equipment from his airplane after California Disaster Airlift Response Team members transported about 3,000 face shields for healthcare workers from California to Walla Walla, Washington. Photo courtesy of Bill Herrington.

Washington emergency coordinators Bill Herrington and Sky Terry complimented California pilots Brian Dear and Bruce Phillips, Seattle pilot and flight instructor Doug Weller, and others.

Herrington said he “cannot thank everyone involved enough” for the humanitarian effort that also combined valuable training procedures. “These supplies may very well help save lives in our community.”

Terry predicted that general aviation aircraft and pilots would be crucial during the first 30 days following a major West Coast earthquake before sufficient federal efforts ramped up. Time and again, GA pilots have risen to the occasion to deliver supplies or to help evacuate personnel from locations inaccessible to commercial air-

lines.

The Washington group typically drills with people who simulate various injuries or infirmities, but it added the delivery of 15 canines to its mission experience during airlifts from La Paz, Mexico, to adoptive families in Seattle.

California Disaster Airlift Response Team volunteer pilot Brian Dear flew donated personal protective equipment to Walla Walla, Washington, with coordination from Washington Disaster Airlift Response Team members Bill Herrington and Sky Terry. Photo courtesy of Bill Herrington.

He said GA pilots were called upon when airlines couldn’t fly the dogs to the United States because of coronavirus travel restrictions. Pilots included Weller, who worked out a land-and-air plan after airlines scuttled scores of commercial flights. During three weekends in May, teams of volunteers associated with the training groups pooled resources with GA outreach organizations



[Aerobridge](#) and [Pilots N Paws](#) to support the communities.

“It’s the day the drills have been prepping for,” Terry said. “It’s what the West Coast General Aviation Response Plan is about.” Terry recognized the many volunteers who participated during 10 years of training exercises that led to the moment that he predicted would become one “for the history books for our state.”

(reprint from AOPA Web/ePilot, June 2020)

EAA Chapter 604 Minutes, May 11, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. using Zoom Meetings due to Covid-19 and the Stay Home Stay Safe order from our Governor. After some technical difficulties with new technology, we were able to get the meeting going. Don Gibbard took attendance and we had 11 members at the online meeting.

The Minutes from our March meeting were summarized by our Secretary, Don Gibbard. There was no discussion. Ron Urban moved that we accept the minutes. It was seconded and the motion carried. (Note: the printed copy of the minutes was sent to our mailing list.)

The Treasurer's Report was given by Ron Urban. Our bank account is solvent, and we only had one expense of \$10.00 for our Non-Profit State renewal. There was no income for the month. At the May meeting there were 19 paid members. A motion was made and seconded that we accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Board Meeting Report: The Executive Board met on May 10th. It was decided that the Chapter will need to postpone the 2020 Young Eagle event to September 26th with the hope that Covid-19 will be under control and the restrictions will be lifted. Susan updated the City calendar and Facebook Page Calendar. Don Gibbard will update the Chapter Web Page.

At our General Meeting, there was some discussion about keeping the fly-in on the calendar. Ron U. spoke about the Young Eagle Event being our signature event and that it takes all of us and outside volunteers to carry out the event. Adding the Fly-In would tax our human resources.

Projects: Dave Miller passed his written test. Congratulations Dave on the next step. Keep it up!

Don Gibbard talked about the Web Page. There was some discussion about a "Members Only" section but since this is a free hosting of our web content, we are at the mercy of the host. In this case, EAA covers the cost of hosting the page. There is opportunity to include events and newsletters on the page so please check it out from time to time. (<https://chapters.eaa.org/EAA604>)

New Business: President Bill reviewed the Chapter Survey results with us. There were 8 members who completed the survey. There were two things that stood out: 1) All members should recommend Chapter activities to others. 2) When asked why you joined, there were 8 different answers! Our results put us slightly under the national average except in home building. We currently have several members working on projects.

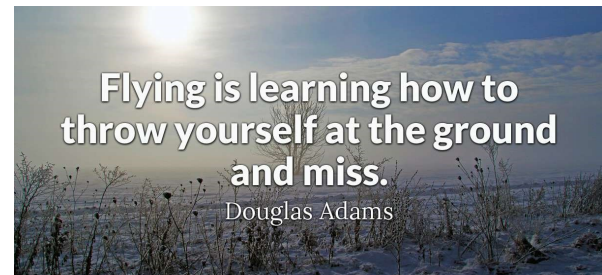
Someone reported that the Flying Club has acquired a Piper Cub.

This will allow members to get Tailwheel endorsed if they are interested.

DART activities: Bill reported on the recent activities centered around moving medical PPE supplies to our community. Susan suggested adding this information to our Facebook page.

Gorge Aviation is working on plans of a BBQ at the FBO at Walla Walla Airport. There is no date set but as soon as the County can form in larger groups, they will be sending out invitations.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Gibbard, Secretary



2020 REFRESHMENTS

JANUARY	-
FEBRUARY	Skip Wade
MARCH	Matt Harris
APRIL	Charlie Miller
MAY	On Your Own
JUNE	On Your Own
JULY	Dave Cheney
AUGUST	Don Gibbard
SEPTEMBER	Travis & Susan Chlarson
OCTOBER	Dave & Leah Miller
NOVEMBER	Bill Herington
DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY

Chapter Meeting Online

Our June Chapter meeting will be held as an online Zoom meeting on Monday June 8th starting at 7:00 p.m. You will receive an invitation to join the meeting from Ron Urban. There will be a link to the online meeting you can use with a computer, smartphone, tablet with video capabilities. If you do not have a camera on your computer you can still join online but you will need a microphone in order to join the conversation.

The second option is to dial in with any phone. There is a toll free number with the meeting ID and password in the line. If you can launch the call from your email, the link will in put all the necessary information. If you dial it directly from a phone you will need to follow the prompts for meeting ID and meeting Password.

Keep your email invitation handy as you login since it contains all the information you need to succeed.

If you have not used Zoom before the link will prompt you to download the Zoom App. Follow the install directions.



June Fly-out Opportunity

Tracy Koberstein from Pendleton notified us that their chapter is planning a fly-out to "Field Station" on June 20th, and we are invited to join in. Apparently, Field Station is not an actual airport, but rather a place along a road in Harney County, Oregon where they're planning a cook out/gathering of like-minded flying aficionados. Tracy said that they planned to land on the road, have a burger, and hang out for a while. He said more details would be available soon. If you want to contact him before that, his number is: 503.347.8036, email nspranch@gmail.com. Sounds like something interesting to finally start the flying season and shake off the boredom!

Official FAA Notice Confirms Limited Coverage of COVID-19 SFAR

May 7, 2020 – As [EAA reported last week](#), the FAA did not deliver relief to personal and recreational aviation that the general aviation community sought and anticipated in a Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) addressing COVID-19's impact on aviation, especially in the areas of expiring biennial flight reviews (BFR) and aircraft annual inspections.

A [notice from the FAA Safety Team](#) confirms EAA's disappointing legal interpretation that extension of flight review expirations are contingent on meeting all of a set of demanding requirements for pilot experience and limitations on the kinds of eligible operations. EAA was dismayed to see considerable restrictions on who could extend the expiration of their biennial flight review through June and the absence of relief for aircraft whose annual inspection has come due during the period of national lockdown in response to the pandemic.

There is considerable misinformation circulating in the aviation community concerning the extension of flight review expirations applying broadly, when in fact the SFAR was extremely restrictive as to who and under what type of operations BFRs can be extended.

EAA is exploring with the FAA what solutions might still be available for keeping airmen and aircraft in the air as the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions continue to one degree or another across the nation.



Tis The Season for Thunder storms so be aware and alert!