

# ***The WingNut***

**EAA Chapter 1** Flabob Airport (RIR) Riverside, CA



**Volume 62, Issue 9/10**

**We Make Flying Fun!**

**September/October 2015**

## **Jim Hayes has Gone West**

**by Wes Blasjo**

We were all saddened to learn of the unexpected passing of one of our Young Eagle pilots, Jim Hayes who passed from this life on September 1. He suffered a fall and subsequently hit his head which caused a skull fracture. He was rushed to emergency care, but the internal bleeding could not be stopped and he died of internal bleeding. The cause of the fall is not known.

Jim first flew Young Eagles in his Grumman Cheetah over nine years ago, and has since flown 213 Young Eagles. During the Corona Airport flood of December 2010, his airplane joined the submarine fleet as he was not given notification and did not know about the flooding until it was too late. It took him over a year to get the insurance settled, and then he looked to buy another airplane. He could not find one to his liking, so he joined the flying club at Riverside Municipal Airport and rented a Cessna 172 each month so he could continue flying Young Eagles. There were very rare occasions when the plane was not available or he was out of town teaching a seminar and he was always disappointed to not be able to fly the kids. When this happened, he would always say, "I will be there next month", and he was.

Jim worked for the Buena Park police department from 1977 to 2005. He did the usual patrol, but also worked narcotics and auto theft. He became part of an auto theft task force, which put him in his real element. After retirement he taught auto theft prevention seminars in the criminal justice department of numerous colleges and universities. He loved sharing his wealth of experience with those who were getting started in that phase of law enforcement. Prior to joining the Buena Park Police Department, he worked for the Imperial County Sheriff's Department.

Services were held at the Grove Community Church in Orange Crest on Tuesday September 15 at 11:30, with interment at the Riverside National Cemetery.

From the aviation family at Flabob, we send our heartfelt condolences to his wife and family, and to his many friends who grieve with us in the loss of a fellow aviator and dear friend. Jim, we will miss you.

## **"Sons of Beaches" Oceano Fly-In, Aug. 14-16, 2015**

**by Jim O'Brien - EAA Ch 1 President**

Since my good friend Joe Lestmeister got weathered out of attending the Low-and-Slow fly in at Flabob earlier this year, I thought it would be a good idea if we brought Flabob to him in his neck of the woods. In trade for doing so, Joe graciously volunteered to be our host...and what a weekend it was...AND what a host Joe turned out to be!

Leaving Flabob and Riverside airports were EAA members and YE pilots Jim Meeker, Allyn Auck and myself, along with Roberta as my navigator. Another loyal Chapter 1 YE pilot, Bobby Lee Litchfield, and his bride Tina, joined us on Friday from Cable Airport. As most of us know, Oceano is notorious for coastal eddy fog and low clouds... arriving and dissipating at the airport at any time of day. However, the good weather gods were with us, and Friday proved to be the PERFECT day to fly in, - especially with the Riverside forecast predicted to be 105 degrees plus!

Joe met us at L52 with a truck full of BBQ's, coolers, drinks and plenty of food. On arriving, we set up our tents and made our homes for the weekend, and quickly began to enjoy the 78 degree weather.

*(See OCEANO - Page 4)*





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# Calendar of Events

## September

- 3rd Chapter One Board Meeting .
- 4th Famous Friendly Flabob First Friday @ Five p.m. Family Fabulous Flying Film Festival
- 12th Young Eagles Chapter One Meeting 1pm
- 19th Aircraft Display Days & Car Show

## October

- 2nd Famous Friendly Flabob First Friday @ Five p.m. Family Fabulous Flying Film Festival
- 3rd Aircraft Spruce Super Sale  
Young Eagles \*  
Chapter One Meeting 1pm \*
- 6th Chapter One Board Meeting \*
- 17th Aircraft Display Days & Car Show
- 24th Ray Stits Memorial Fly-In

## November

- 6th Famous Friendly Flabob First Friday @ Five p.m. Family Fabulous Flying Film Festival
- 7th Flabob's Veteran's Day Celebration
- 21st Young Eagles Chapter One Meeting 1pm  
Chapter One Board Meeting .  
Aircraft Display Days & Car Show
- TBA EAA Sport Air Workshops

## December

- 5th Christmas Dinner @ 6:01PM

\* - Denotes Schedule Change



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# The Prez Sez...

By Jim O'Brien - President EAA Chapter 1

Well... Summer is 'unofficially' over, and most of our vacations and family visits are now things to look back on. Hopefully everyone has good memories! Now, if we could only get past this incredible heat we've been having! There's a lot of activity to report on with the chapter, as well as aviation in general. Let's start close to home!

We have made great contacts with several of the nearby EAA chapters, and together, we've been supporting each others' events. There is a slate of events for the remaining weekends in September and October.... the prime event being our own EAA Chapter 1 'Ray Stits Memorial' Fly in on October 23-24. We're encouraging arriving Friday, camping, movies, dinners, breakfasts, lunches and dinner again. We'll have many items up for silent auction... both aviation and non-aviation... something for everyone. Debbie Cheney is very enthusiastic about being the chairman, and has included a wine and cheese afternoon for everyone to enjoy. PLEASE.... mark your calendars and plan to attend!

We NEED VOLUNTEERS to help with everything. Set up, kitchen help, cooking, aircraft parking, the whole enchilada, so to speak. If you are available and can help... Please contact Ron Headlee (Volunteer Coordinator) at ardee0@hotmail.com or through the chapter website. We'd be happy to have the extra help, and since it's really slated to be in Ray's memory, we hope to see many of Ray's old friends attending and helping, if possible!

We are contemplating repairs on the clubhouse....we have a leaky roof, and repairs are needed. We have voted to buy our own computers for Young Eagles, as the ones we've been using are not ours, and feel we should have positive control over equipment that is vital to our program!

The board also has voted to use our Young Eagle credits to send 2 kids to EAA Air Academy, which is a 1 week program held in Oshkosh. Air Academy is a week long program giving kids an in-depth education on all facets of aviation, including hands-on experience with sheet metal, coverings, navigation, aerodynamics, careers, etc. With each Young Eagle flight, we earn dollar credits, and at the rate we are flying kids, we should have plenty to send 2. We're writing the program, and it's going to include volunteer, aviation interest and essay requirements. We'll let you know when the program is posted on the chapter's website, for your information and to let interested kids know what's required!

Dave Cheney, a welcomed volunteer, is taking charge of our school outreach program... telling them of the Chapter 1 Young Eagles program, and is in need of some help. He has set up 'stations' of various aspects of the program, to encourage the kids to come fly with us. He usually goes to 2-3 schools each month, and if you're a retired teacher, or just an aviation enthusiast who wants to encourage kids to look into aviation, please contact me and I'll put you in touch with Dave!

We are once again going to be cooking breakfast and lunch for the good folks at Aircraft Spruce on Oct. 10th, their 'Customer Appreciation Day.' This is a BIG fund raise for the chapter, as many of the vendors and those who have table-top displays, auction off their wares... of which ALL of the proceeds from the auction and food donations go directly to the chapter. It's to benefit the youth specifically, and we have earmarked some of the money we expect to cover airfare for the 2 kids to Air Academy. Please plan to attend... besides.... many GREAT deals and specials to be had from Aircraft Spruce!

We have been remiss in posting the board minutes in the newsletter, and have made arrangements to correct that oversight. You will be able to see what we discussed and voted on, on your behalf. Please read them and direct any comments to anyone of us on the board. We're here and doing this for you, so your input is much welcomed!

It's been proposed that us Young Eagle pilots gather one more day each month, and fly interested kids to a specific destination. Everyone benefits... pilot and youth! We talked about aviation museums, and then lunch, then back home.

(See PREZ - Page 5)







### **(OCEANO - Continued from Page 1)**

Friday night, we met up with Brian and Susie Duffield, - long time tenants and friends of Flabob and Chapter 1, hangared currently at Riverside. The Duffield's were riding their ATV's on the dunes there... but moved their 5th-wheel over to the airport and were a welcomed addition to our group!

Saturday morning brought YE pilots and Chapter members Jimmy O'Brien, and James McKinley from Redlands. Later in the day, Dutch Williams and his dad Jim arrived from Eagle Airport in AZ to join us. (Dutch and my son Jimmy became friends at A&P school, and Dutch has fast become like a son to me.) So the 13 of us, in 6 airplanes, were ready to PARTY, and party we did!

Joe brought and manned a beautiful oak-burning BBQ that he fabricated himself. Saturday morning was coffee, muffins, and sweet rolls. Lunch was hot dogs, chips, and some of Robert's homemade chocolate chip cookies. Dinner was incredible. Joe slow cooked 4 tri-tips, Santa Maria style! We ate like kings and queens. Tri-tip, potato salad, salad, cut fresh veggies, and baked beans filled everyone's plate!

We had an impromptu 'Flour Bombing' contest, and Jimmy O'Brien and a young German exchange student named Katerina got within 3 ft. of the target... the unofficial winners, -but the trophy went to a VERY proud 5 year old, flying with his grandpa: Fast Eddie in a Tri-Pacer he's owned for the last 37 years!

I was surprised to find that the campground filled up. We were definitely the largest group camping, but there were probably 10 other 'airplane campers' who flew in and were enjoying the weather and fun with us. Oceano is absolutely beautiful. The countryside from Santa Ynez, through Santa Maria to Oceano is very picturesque, and a welcome change from the brown that late summer always brings to us in Riverside. Walking on the beach, and seeing all the sand machines everyone likes to ride was fun. It's an awesome spot along the coast of CA!

Coincidentally, the 15th of August was a special movie night for the Oceano community,- sponsored by the 'Friends of the Oceano Airport'...so we all had a movie to enjoy Saturday night. We were all treated by Dutch and Jim Williams to a few songs...original and otherwise...as they played their guitars and harmonica for everyone to enjoy!

Sunday morning showed up with typical low overcast... and we were able to begin departing on our journeys home around 9:30. Everyone is home safely, and we all agreed to make this an annual event. (Actually, it was decided beforehand on that.... consequently the name... "Sons ofBeaches!")

We'll set the date for next year's fly-in in early January, so that more can make plans to attend, and join us for the 2nd annual "SONS OF BEACHES FLY IN" at Oceano!



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# Air Mail

Featuring Letters from our Members



Everyone at Port-a-Port Hangar Leasing was saddened to hear of the passing of our long-time tenant and friend Ray Stits. He was one of our original pilots who placed hangars on our lease site so many years ago. A very fine gentleman who will be missed by many.

Enclosed is a donation in memory of Ray Stits. A small token to honor his memory.

Best Regards,  
B. Kim Lilly,  
Fred Glick, & Sharon Glick

## *(PREZ - Continued from Page 3)*

This will give the pilots and youths more of an in-depth flying experience, and hopefully snag more kids to learn to fly, or consider some involvement, or career in the world of aviation. I think this is an AWESOME idea. Please let me know what YOU think!

The Annual Chapter 1 Christmas Party is on Dec. 5th, at 6:01 PM. As always, the chapter will provide the turkey and ham along with 'some' fixins, but as your admission, please bring an appropriate dish for 6-8... that way, there's plenty of food for everyone. This year is going to be as much fun as ever... we have some good planners involved! Again, there's so much benefit in being a volunteer. It's such a good feeling to do something for someone else... to help them along... or to make their life better, and we have so many opportunities for you to accomplish that through the chapter.

Please volunteer.... everyone benefits!!

Fly often! Fly safely!!



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## A Permanent 'THANK YOU!'

to  
**Ray Stits**  
from  
**EAA Oshkosh**



Long before Ray's passing, and despite being a very private man, his generosity was almost public record. Along with his ongoing contributions to EAA Chapter 1, Flabob Airport, there were many many young people that Ray sponsored to 'earn their wings'.... Ray did a LOT for EAA as a whole!

In the early days, Ray assisted Paul Poberezney not only with financial donations, (... we'll never know the figure, but I was told it was in the hundreds of thousands....) but with time and effort, encouragement, enthusiasm, and wisdom accumulated over his lifetime!

EAA National honored Ray Stits on Friday, July 24th, with a permanent 'Brown Stone' under the BIG ARCH at Airventure. It was a fitting presentation, and all of the EAA hierarchy attending told both me and all those from Flabob who were there, how grateful they were for what Ray did to help make EAA the organization it has become today.

Jack Pelton, Chairman of the Board, Charlie Becker, Chapter Director, and Brian Wierzbinski, CFO, all had many words of gratitude for us, and asked us to pass along their heartfelt "THANKS" to the Stits family!

Attending were Roberta and I, John Lyon, Walt Wasowski, Beth LaRock, Gregg Landolt, Dave Almy, and all of the kids from the Build-a-Plane project who were lucky enough to be at Oshkosh all week!

So, next time you're back at Airventure, please check out Ray's brown stone. It's near the right corner, and take a few minutes to say your own "Thank you Ray!"

Jim O'Brien  
EAA Chapter 1 President





# Board Meeting Minutes

September 3, 2015

*The following is a summary only. The complete Minutes may be obtained by contacting the chapter secretary at "secretary@eaach1.org"*

Present were: Nancy Acorn, Gabe Baumert, Jan Buttermore, Debbie Cheney, Ron Headlee, Beth LaRock, Jim O'Brien, Roberta Phillips, and Greg Yonge. Guests were: Trish Anderson, Dave Cheney, and Stacy McKinley

1. Call to order at 18:30 - Jim O'Brien
2. Secretary/Approve last month's minutes- The Board approved that the Board Meeting minutes should be included in the Wingnut.
3. Treasurer's Report - Nancy Acorn - Approved.
4. Upcoming Events:
  - Compton EAA Chapter Fly-in/Open House - September 26th. Jim and Roberta will attend.
  - Cable EAA 448 - 2015 Young Eagles Days are scheduled for September 26th - October 24th-November 21st. We will let our Young Eagle pilots know so we can get credit.
  - Aircraft Spruce Open house - October 3rd. Tyler- youth need volunteers need at least 4 kids -
  - Chapter 494 Corona Young Eagles - October 17th.
  - EAA Chapter One Fly-in - October 24th - we are on the Flabob calendar and are advertising in In flight magazine and others.
  - EAA Chapter One Christmas party - December 5th - Arrangements are with Trish. Volunteer roster and Board will split up and call to invite membership and ask for volunteers.
  - EAA Leadership Academy - Young Eagle people too. Link so we can register - Jim will resend. We should all go. We need to let other Chapter Board members know too.

#### New Business:

- Table and chair issues - Need to inventory/track damage.
- Fly-in/Silent Auction/Raffle - we need a fundraiser and requests for donations.
- Election/Nominating Committee to solicit prospective candidates for upcoming elections.
- Stacy McKinley will transition to Treasurer after elections/at the new year.
- Young Eagle kids in October is 50 and 50 in November and none in December.
- Website updates are required - need a volunteer to help.
- Social media participation - Facebook, instagram, Social Flight and Fun Places to Fly - Debbie is working on it.
- The 2016 Chapter One dates are posted to the Flabob calendar and Beth has them.

- The Board approved for Greg to purchase 2 or 3 laptops for YE. Purchase price to be under \$300 per laptop.
- We need to get a work party together to clean up the loft.
- T-shirt Vending area needs to be cleaned up as QB's would like to use it for a beverage area at their upcoming meeting. The Board approved this use.
- YE kids and adults need more EAA T-shirts and Flabob Shirts.
- We have a new stage and audio system in Hangar 16A.
- More involvement and activity from the board members would be helpful and more enthusiasm would help too.
- We want to increase airport youth involvement.
- We want to remember the \$5 credit we get for each Young Eagle we fly.
- We want to use some of the funds from Aircraft Spruce to send some of our students to Oshkosh, at least 2. We have to use up our credits before Airventure. The Board approved \$600 from Aircraft Spruce to be used to send kids to Oshkosh.
- Our next Board Meeting was scheduled for October 8th, but was changed by the members of the board to October 6th instead due to scheduling conflicts.
- Our next Young Eagles Rally will be September 12th, 2015
- Our next membership meeting will be September 12th, after YE.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 20:21.

Respectfully Submitted - Gabe Baumert, Secretary

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# Ray Stits Memorial Fly-in Flabob Airport



## October 24 - 25, 2015

**Silent Auction** - (If you are interested in donating, please let us know.)

### CAMP WITH US FREE!



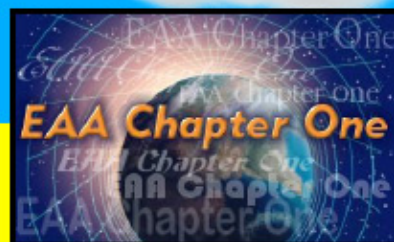
#### Saturday 24th -

- \* Early Bird Lunch
- \* \$5 Social Hour
- \* \$10 Dinner & Movie
- \* Silent Auction

#### Sunday 25th -

- \* Pancake Breakfast

RSVP - Debbie Cheney (951) 243-4618  
board5@eaach1.org    www.eaach1.org



# Young Eagles Report

by Wes Blasjo - EAA Ch. 1 YE Coordinator



August 8th, 2015

September 12, 2015

The number of expectant young flyers surged a little in August, and the "June Gloom" continued, but twelve persistent Ch.1 pilots persevered and 58 youth became smiling Young Eagles. Thanks to all the pilots and ground support people who ended up working until early afternoon in order to get every young person who showed up into the air. This kind of support and dedication is what makes the Ch. 1 Young Eagle Program a success.

## Pilots:

Allyn Auck  
Deborah Cheney  
Larry Conley  
Barry Duple  
James Hayes  
Tyler Howell  
Gregg Landolt  
Bobby Lee Litchfield  
James McKinley  
James Meeker  
James O'Brien Jr.  
Allen Teets

Cessna 172  
Cessna 140  
Ercoupe  
Cherokee 235  
Cessna 172  
Cessna 172  
Charger  
Cherokee 140  
Aircoupe  
Taylorcraft  
Cessna 150  
Cessna 172

The hot humid days of September gave us a slight break and allowed us to fly Young Eagles in somewhat comfortable weather. We finished flying 26 youth by 11:30am and it wasn't until after 2:00 PM that it started getting hot and humid. Thanks to nine Ch. 1 pilots, everyone received a great flight, as there was no rush to get done early. Thanks again to Dave Cheney for the mini ground school, Jim O'Brien for the preflight instruction and Roberta Phillips and Charlene Rhodes for the checking of consent forms.

SPECIAL NOTE: Next month, Oct. 2015, the Young Eagle Flight Rally will be on October 3rd, the FIRST Saturday of Oct. The airport is being used for a QB event on the second Saturday of Oct.

## Pilots:

Deborah Cheney  
Michael Clearman  
Larry Conley  
Dave Cudney  
Bobby Lee Litchfield  
James McKinley  
James Meeker  
Allen Teets

Cessna 140  
Marquart Charger  
Ercoupe  
RV 7A  
Cherokee  
Aircoupe  
Taylorcraft  
Cessna 172

## Volunteer Help Needed for Christmas Dinner



Chapter 1 is seeking enthusiastic individuals to assist with our annual Christmas Dinner and Festivities. Assistance is needed with planning, decorating, table and chair set-up, food preparation, clean-up, and more!

Interested persons should email:

**Trish Anderson**  
"anderman00@yahoo.com"







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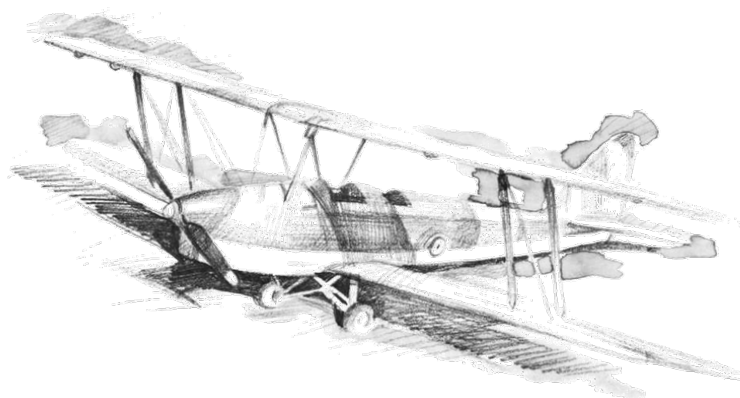
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## ***Join us for our Chapter Meetings!***

***September 12th,  
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