

# Smoke Signals

The Official Newsletter of Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 175

April 2000

Vandenberg Airport Tampa

## Number of Sandwiches at Sun 'n Fun Sets Another record

I entered the kitchen at Sun 'n Fun around 9:00 PM on Tuesday evening to discuss some things with Pete Lansbery and didn't have the heart to say anything. He and Ted Coberly

were busy operating the meat cutter, slicing lunch meat for the next day.

It seems the vendor had delivered the meat frozen

instead of thawed and they couldn't get it sliced during the day so they were working late at night to get it ready for the next days frantic pace of making sandwiches for Sun 'n Fun volunteers.

This is the kind of dedication that Pete, Ted, Mary Ann Fava, Dave Mellor, and Ray Taunton, who handles the drinks, have given this annual event, a major fund raiser for Chapter 175, since 1992.

The late Patty Koetz worked to get Chapter 175 the annual job of making sandwiches and providing coolers filled with Lemonade or Water, for Sun 'n Fun in 1992. The Chapter has carried the tradition on now for the eighth year.

What started out to be around 10,000 sandwiches for the week has

now developed into a monstrous 20,000 sandwiches this year.

To get the sandwiches out on time and with a surprising variety of different tasty ingredients, requires about twenty volunteers, countless hours of volunteer help, and a highly developed, sophisticated logistical control with many vendors.

Pete and his trusty crew have worked together so long that they have developed a well oiled machine with volunteers working smoothly together

to assemble the ingredients, make the sandwiches, individually wrap the

sandwiches in a plastic bag, and pack them into foam boxes to deliver the right quantity of sandwiches to each Sun 'n Fun volunteer location. At the

same time, Ray Taunton's crew has thoroughly washed the drink containers then refilled them so that each location receives their lunch on time complete with drinks. It is a huge undertaking with many challenges. Pete is now wrestling with the Sun 'n Fun man-

agement about needing more room for staging the foam boxes, and a cleaner, more sanitary environment. Of course, Sun 'n Fun is faced with budgetary restraints so the negotiations continue.

One very encouraging sign was a surprise visit by the new Director of sun 'n Fun, John Burton, who took the time to cheer the volunteers during a busy time and also chatted with Pete for several minutes...the first time a Director has ever visited the site during the fly-in since we have had the program.

This is one of the more important functions performed at Sun 'n Fun, we hope they will take an interest in providing adequate facilities for us next year so that we can provide first class sandwiches that are not only delicious, but are



*Pete Lansbery, Chairman, in one of those rare light moments. Pete works long hours to keep things running smoothly.*



*Ray Taunton with a heavy container of Lemon Aid. Ray gets there early and stays late.*



*Dave Mellor, Co-Chairman, bringing more "meat" to fill sandwiches. Things are really movin', Dave!*

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Dear EAA Members,

With no meeting this month because the fourth Sunday occurs on Easter Sunday, we are praying that all of you will pay special attention to the bulletins and schedules in this month's newsletter.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE BRANDON BALLOON CLASSIC!!!!!!**

Our mission at the Brandon Balloon Classic has changed, we no longer will be manning the Coca Cola Booths, ***BUT***, we still have many chores to do because, good news!!! Event Makers' Melissa Roe has asked us to do other things to help them run the balloon Classic and in return (and thanks to Mark Moberg) they will donate 20 cents per drink sold during the week-end to Chapter 175.

This could be a major fund raiser for the chapter this year and perhaps for each year in the future, but we need your help to make it happen.

Since we are not having a meeting this month, that makes the May meeting all that much more important. It is time to reassess just what we want this chapter to be.

I guess my first question is, why are you a member? Are you a part of the chapter and willing to help with the things that need to be done so we can have a great time together, or are you sitting back and 'waiting' for someone to think of a way to 'entertain' you? You may have to wait a long time because every member is just like you, nothing will happen if we wait. If all of us don't get involved and suggest ideas with a willingness to carry the ball until the idea becomes part of the chapter program, then whatever it was that drew you to Chapter 175 will die and nothing will happen.

Recently a member mentioned that he would like to start a chapter at Peter O'Knight Airport because he would like to see a forum started for aircraft builders, and all we ever talk about is, "the building". Well, there is no reason that we couldn't have that forum idea carried out right here in Chapter 175, in fact I would love to see that happen. I can tell him, and everyone else, it's sure a whole lot easier to get something like that going with an active chapter than to go out and start another chapter. Just ask Bebe Teichman or Lynn Hirschfeld, both chapter presidents of new chapters and both struggling to motivate their membership. It ain't easy to start a new chapter...heck, it ain't easy to keep an old chapter moving like it should, and it's impossible without everyone pitching in.

We need those suggestions right here, I promise I will do everything possible to make new ideas work. After all, that is what keeps a chapter alive. If you aren't satisfied or happy with the way things are going, by all means, talk to someone, and let's get things moving the way you'd like to see them go.

**WE'LL DO IT TOGETHER..... *JUST TALK TO ME!***

Whatever you do, get excited about being part of this chapter, get your hand up and volunteer. This isn't the U. S. Army, this is an EAA chapter of good, fun loving people that want to make things happen, and have fun doing it.....together!

Flying is what this whole thing is all about, but doing service work and bringing kids into Aviation is also part of it, too. Building new kit airplanes or rebuilding old ones, just flying together to some interesting place, or participating in the major Aviation events that we are lucky enough to be in the middle of...all of these things are what it's all about, ya' can't do that without getting involved, hopefully with us. Thank you,

Dan

## Smoke Signals

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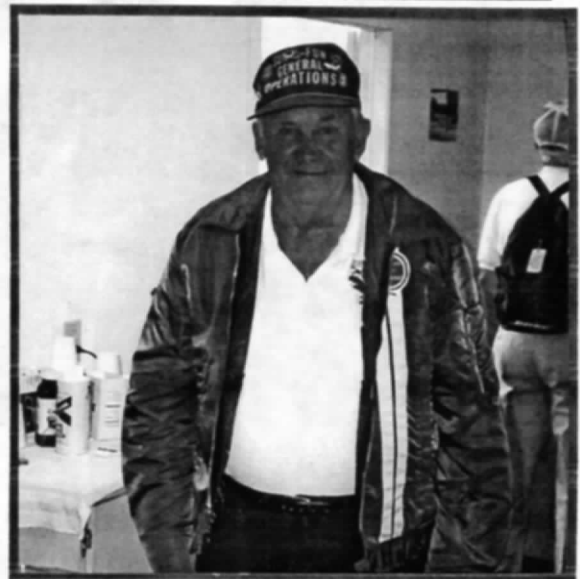
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*Mary Ann Fava and Ted Coberly, Co-Chairmen, are busy counting sandwiches as they fill the foam boxes for delivery to individual volunteer sites. It requires much concentration to get it right.*



*Herb Johnson, Chapter 175 Volunteer for Forums. Herb has served at Forums for many years and knows just what to do to make things click.*

clean, safe and bacteria free.

That is Chapter 175's mission and Pete and crew will assure it happens with just a little consideration, study, and help from the folks at Sun 'n Fun.

provided a vital service to the members of EAA by making available the leading experts, in just about every field of aviation, to Sun 'n Fun participants .

## Forums Grows Each Year, Two Co-Chairmen Retire

Lyle Flagg, Chapter 175 member and Chairman of Forums announced the retirement of two Co-Chairmen this year. His right hand man and contact for presenters at the forums, Grahame Gates, announced his retirement after twenty five years as Co-Chairman, which really presents a challenge for Lyle this year.

He is also losing a real favorite of the volunteers and a good friend of Chapter 175, Frank Halse, whose wife is suffering from cancer and is moving to Pennsylvania to be near their daughters.

There are several Chapter 175 members, including Lyle, that have been instrumental in the success of Forums for Sun 'n Fun. Forums is a group that have



*(right) Frank Halsey, a retired minister and long-time associate of Lyle's is retiring this year. He has brought a great deal of camaraderie to the Forums group and will be sorely missed.*



*Lyle Flagg (Right) with Ron Carpenter, standing outside the storage and office building for Forums. Lyle has been the Chairman of Forums for 26 years, Ron has been serving with Lyle for just about as long. A great team from Chapter 175*



*Les Conwell, standing at the entrance to Parts Mart. Busy!*







## Marilyn's Corner

By Marilyn Gauthier, HCAA General Aviation

The following is a short overview of activities and events happening in the next couple of months at Vandenberg Airport. EAA Chapter is a key component of Vandenberg Airport and the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (HCAA) wants to keep you, the airport user, as informed as possible.

### EVENTS:

#### **TECO Energy Brandon Balloon Classic: April 28, 29, & 30th, 2000**

HCAA is very excited about the upcoming activities at Vandenberg within the next couple of months. On February 27th, Melissa Roe of Event Makers, and I met with you at the chapter's monthly meeting and were impressed with your enthusiasm to be involved with the TECO Energy Brandon balloon Classic.

We are expecting 20,000 people over the three day event and could use all of the EAA Chapter's support possible. Static Aircraft, Young Eagle Flights, volunteers to control the three airport entrances. We'll need six volunteers, two per gate to assure that only Vandenberg tenants, and balloon people are allowed to use those gates. We also would like for you to assist leading Edge Aviation in aircraft ground control. We are asking that volunteers be at the gates at 6:00 PM Friday night and by 7:00 AM Saturday morning.

#### **Sun 'n Fun: April 9 through 15th, 2000**

By the time you read this, Sun 'n Fun will be over, but, be sure and stop by our booth in the future, we always enjoy seeing you when you stop by and visit.

### CONSTRUCTION:

#### **New Terminal Building:**

As some of you have already seen, we have occupied the new terminal Building. My office is located on the second floor next to the elevator. I have an open door policy, so please, come and visit when you are in the area.

#### **MALSR Lights:**

Once again, we will be closing the 800 foot displaced threshold to complete the installation of the MALSR lights. This should be happening shortly, so keep in touch with the Flight Service for published NOTAMS of runway closures.

#### **LOCALIZER:**

The FAA has received our application for approval to install a localizer for runway 23. As soon as the paperwork is returned, we can begin the process to purchase and install. Hopefully, we will see the installation of there localizer by mid-summer.

#### **Vandenberg Expansion, Phase 6A:**

Just when you think we are finished, we start again. Beginning Tuesday, March 21, 2000 you should have seen surveyors working in the vicinity of Runway 5-23. We have commenced the design for taxiway J and adjacent hangars (Bulk and T-Hangars). Soon we will begin more construction in the field South of runway 5-23. Keep your eyes and ears open to airfield reports, they'll be coming fast!

### SAFETY:

The Safety Committee met on Saturday, March 18, 2000 in the new Terminal Building Conference Room. One of the discussion topics was the new Tampa International Airport Website, [www.TampaAirport.com](http://www.TampaAirport.com). Under the General Aviation Airports icon, a new Safety Suggestion Program has been introduced for each of the airports. Easily Assessable, is a safety suggestion icon that leads into an e-mail format to send your suggestions straight to our office. Please feel free to e-mail your safety suggestions. You folks are one of our most helpful assets by reporting problems or concerns to help us maintain a safe airport environment!

Thank you!

Marilyn

## Leading Edge Aviation Update

By Mark Moberg, Leading Edge Aviation, Inc.

Have you been out to the airport lately? If so, have you stopped in and seen the new terminal facility? You need to do it very soon! The new terminal facility is finally open. Leading Edge quietly moved in during the middle of February and opened our doors to the first customers. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. The contractor is still finishing several area of the building and the maintenance side of the building isn't completed yet, but we hope it will be opening soon.

In the spring of last year, Leading Edge Aviation finalized and signed the agreement that will open the new terminal facility and provide a level of service and amenities that have never before been offered at Vandenberg.

We have been preparing for the Grand Opening for several months now, and when the time finally arrives, it will be fantastic.

With Sun 'n Fun almost over, we have had very good response to the new terminal facilities. Many of the visitors still remember the facility on the South side of the airport...and the trailer last year.

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The Chapter 175 Board has held at least one of its Board Meetings in our conference room. We are real pleased to have provided those facilities for that use. Leading Aviation and the Chapter 175 Board have been finalizing the plans for the chapter's new Educational facility. This facility will be located on the East end of the hangar where leading Edge formerly operated its Maintenance business. Dan Holsapple and the people on the committee have done a great job laying out the floor plan to best utilize the space available. This will provide an excellent facility for the chapter to use.

Leading Edge is very happy to see the chapter grow and looks forward to the development of this portion of the hangar row to benefit Chapter 175.

We have some very exciting things coming up in the next few months. As you know, we are hosting the TECO Brandon Balloon Classic. This one single event will bring more people to the airport than anything we have participated in before. There are two full days of activities planned and something to do for everyone.

In May, we are one of the host airports for the National Air Transportation Association Meeting. This meeting brings aircraft manufacturers and aviation suppliers from all over the country.

Next year, Tampa is host to the Super Bowl and Vandenberg will be an instrumental part of that event. There will be hundreds of aircraft coming into the area for the game.

Are there many new and exciting times to come at Vandenberg? YOU BET!

Finally, Please stop out today and tell the person at the desk that you are a member of EAA Chapter 175. Let us take you on a tour of the fantastic new facilities here at good ole X16, they belong to all of us and you are welcome any time.



Jim Cooper and his grandson, proudly display their Gee Bee racer during the Junior Young Eagles rally just outside the Young Eagle tent. Jim organized the rally for the little ones. There were over nine small pedal planes in the rally Thursday morning.



Jerry Chabrian (*right*) Chairman, and Rich Warner, Co-Chairman of Young eagles arwe standing infront of the Young eagles pavilion.

They have developed the Young Eagle educational aspects to a fine edge. Great job guys!



Jerry Dean presenting to a group of 5th graders at Lithia Springs Elementary School on their Flight Day. There were 209 kids present at the Flight Day activities. Chapter 175 people with the help of the EAA folks, the HCAA folks, and Jerry Chabrian, came up with enough material to make a nice program for the kids.

## TECO Brandon Balloon Classic

We haven't forgotten the Balloon Festival, there was just too much going on to get much in here.

The main thing is that we need you to be there. Not only because it will be a great time. But, also because this is a majot opportunity to earn some bucks for the chapter.

We'll need people Friday evening from 6:00 PM until around 8:30 Pm to control the gate entrances. Then, at 7:00 AM, Saturday and Sunday, we'll need more volunteers. Please try to make it.

We'll have Young Eagles, Aircraft Static Displays , and lots of other activities.

**Sunday, April 23rd falls on Easter so there will be no Sunday meeting!**

We are having a meeting Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM at the New Terminal Building to plan for the festival. Please try to make it at least for a few minutes to find out what is going on.

**FREDERICK W. CAMPBELL, M.D.**  
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**No Meeting Sunday, April 23rd—It will be Easter Sunday!**  
**So, please try to make the meeting at Vandenberg Airport, April 25th, the new Terminal Building Conference Room at 7:00 PM.**


**You need to know what is going on and where you are needed. We also need volunteers for Monday, April 24th to set up Crowd Control Snow Fencing. This thing is happening very fast, please, PLEASE be there to help out.**

**Dan Holsapple**

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