

## **San Geronimo Airpark**

Jeanette Hunt  
August 8, 2020



San Geronimo air park was established on June 17, 1981.

# *San Geronimo AirPark*

*The Founders paid \$174,000.00 for 86 acres from June and Ernest Evers who had been farming the land since 1946. Under ground electrical cost \$29,000.00. We built the entrance gate, 4 strand barbed wire fence from gate to taxi-way, and made gravel roads so we could drive to our lots*

The founders paid \$174,000 for the 86 acres from June and Ernest Evers, who had been farming the land since 1946. The underground electrical cost \$29,000 and the founders built the entrance gate, four stranded barbed wire fence from the gate to the taxiway and made gravel roads so we could drive to our lots.

Here is our front entry gate as it was. Bubba hunt carved the stone with the address on it so we can see it easily



Here are the founders of San Geronimo air park. At least we're still smiling!



And here are the founders. That's Mason and Jeanette Hunt, Dennis and Gayle Scheidt, Dave and Shirley Baker, Daniel and Rosalie Cerna, Lewis and Nancy Mason, Robert and Nancy Bruce, David and Mary Beckett, Terry McFadden, Dan Dreeben and Wendell Spence.



So that was seven married couples and three singles.

This presentation is dedicated to the founders of the San Geronimo air park for all their hard work and willing spirit to have a place to enjoy flying and the property owner's association for where they will take us in the future.



Here is my first landing at San Geronimo air park it was quite a surprise. I did not know that Bubba hunt was planning on landing in that plow field and I won't tell you what I said. And you can see in the bottom right-hand corner there's the road that we had through the plowed field to get to the oak tree. But there we are. That's the first landing that I know of.



And here is Ernest Evers' family home that was built in the 1900s. He wanted the house moved over to his property, so that's what he did. And it was a beautiful old house/ homestead, and the basement that was under that house is still here on Terry's lot. There's probably bugs, and snakes and everything else in it, but anyway it was a beautiful building during that time.

## Ernest Evers Family Home built in 1900's



And here's our Sunday afternoon. We would always meet under our oak tree. That's as far as we could drive. And everybody brought a Sunday dinner to share. We'd lay it all out and everybody had something good to eat. Here's Carson Gilmer, Rosalie, Nancy, Wanda, Kimberly's friend and Kimberly and Terry Mcfadden. So we all sat around and ate real good. That was our Sunday picnics.



And then when the picnic was over we put everything away in the cars.



And here we go. Time to go to work



There's Nancy and Lew, Dennis, Gail and Rosalie. So come on everybody time to go to work!



Come on everybody....



Time to pick-up rocks....



There's the motley crew, and here's what we had to do. Time to pick up rocks. There's Bubba, Nancy, Rosalie, Lew, Dan, Dennis, Wendell, Danny and Gail, and that's what we did. We drove the tractor our the car with the trailer behind it and everybody picked up rocks. That was our Sunday afternoon exercise.

And here's a little bit more just to prove that I was helping!



I wish I had a picture of that rock pile because after we got through picking them up we then dumped them and then we had to pay to have them removed. But anyway, there was a lot of rocks in that field. And here's some more rocks, and more rocks.



Everybody look at where we're walking through the weeds. Mercy think about all the snakes that we must have scared!



Here are more rocks. Everybody helped and now the sun was setting



And there's Bubba on the tractor. The tractor and shredder cost nine thousand dollars at that time.  
And there's Bubba's truck and his trailer.



And here is Dennis and Bubba planting grass on the runway that's what we had to do first.

## Dennis & Bubba planting grass



In order to water the runway Dave baker took a week's vacation and SGA rented a trencher. Dave dug up a trench from the well to the runway and the length of the runway and then a trench to each of the lots so we could have water. After work and on weekends they glued three inch pipe together, they purchased an aluminum piping system and sprinkler heads to irrigate the runway. The system had to be taken down and set up each time. It was labor intensive!

## *Runway irrigation system*

*In order to water the runway, Dave Baker took a week's vacation. SGA rented a trencher. Dave dug a trench from the well to the runway, and the length of the runway. Then a trench to each lot so we could have water. After work, and on week-ends, they glued 3" pipe together. Purchased an aluminum piping system and sprinkler heads to irrigate the runway. The system had to be taken down and set up each time. It was labor intensive.*

And there's the well house that we had. Bubba built the well-house. That's my daughter kimberly and my granddaughter jillian stand standing with Bubba.





Here is time to water the grass. They had to set it up water it, move it, and take it down at the end of the day.



It cost eighteen thousand dollars to drill a well. The runway had to be watered three times a week, and it would drain two 5500 gallon holding tanks in a couple of hours.

### *The well*

*It cost \$18,000.00 to drill a well. Runway had to be watered 3 times a week. It would drain 2 5500 gallon holding tanks in a couple of hours.*

*We paved the roads in 2002 at a cost of \$67,828.00. Re-Sealed them in 2007 for \$36,649.00*

Then we paved the roads in 2002 at a cost of \$67,828 dollars and then we had to reseal them in 2007 for \$36,649. So we spent a lot of money, but everything that we did, we poured back into the making of this airport.

And here's someone working on the runway. I don't know whose plane that is or car



And there we are at the end of the day. Everybody met back under the oak tree and, I think that's the oak tree that's in my front yard. We had a good time and we all said we'll see you next week same time, same place

## The end of the day



And there's the roads. They were gravel at first. It cost fifty four thousand dollars to pave them.

The roads were gravel at first  
It cost \$54,000.00 to pave them



And here are the professionals. Mr. Bruce said putting this group together was like herding cats. It was a challenge I'm sure. We had architect Dan Cerna, advertising and recording studio Bob Bruce, Masonry contractor Mason Bubba Hunt, financial was Terry Mcfadden, Wendell spence was an airline pilot, Lewis and Nancy were in the real estate. We had Mary Beckett for a medical nurse, and engineer was Dennis Scheidt and a forensic document examiner Jeannette (me). I don't know what I did, but anyway

I'm here, and sales was Dave Baker, accounting Shirley Baker the airline pilot was Nancy Bruce. Ten very diverse individuals with truly different backgrounds bound together only by the thread of aviation and a passion for the freedom of flying.

SGA Professionals	
Bob Bruce said, "Putting this group together was like herding cats." It was a challenge.	"Ten very diverse individuals with truly different backgrounds bound together only by the thread of aviation and a passion for the freedom of flying."
Architect- Daniel Cerna	Medical Nurse- Mary Beckett
Advertising, Recording Studio Bob Bruce	Engineer - Dennis Scheidt
Masonry Contractor Mason (Bubba) Hunt	Forensic Document Examiner - Jeanette Hunt
Financial - Terry McFadin	Sales - David Baker
Airline Pilot - Wendle Spence	Accounting - Shirley Baker
Real Estate - Lewis & Nancy Mason	Airline Pilot - Nancy Bruce

Here's the Ops building going up in March 1982. Dan Cerna was the architect, and he drew the plans for the San Geronimo air park and the ops building. There's Rosalie, Gail and Dennis. It must have been cold day.



Here are the workers, they all loading brick making everything work. There's Bubba at the truck. He's unloading the trailer.



It looks like he's almost finished the office. Framing cost was \$24,789 dollars and it's not finished yet.



And here's the Ops Building. It looks like we were having a good day and somebody must be flying in because we're all out there waiting.





And here we start the EAA building. There's Lou and Dan and Dennis and Bubba, and I think that's Sig that's up there with level on the top of the scaffolding. Everybody pitched in and did what they could. It was a lot of work!



And here's some of the workers, Bubba, Lou, Dave, Dan and I don't know I can't recognize anybody else. But they're all working!



And there's Bubba sitting down for a change on top of the wall. And there's Dennis, Dan and Sig.



Sig took a lot of the good pictures. Bubba and I don't know who that is. There's my little puppy dog bandit. He was always around. We're getting it done. No roof yet but it's looking good.



There's the Ops building and there is the EAA building without a roof. It looks like Bubba's up on top and I think that's Sig.



And here is the mantel for the fireplace. Bubba donated the stone, the labor and the mesquite mantel for the EAA. He found that log on our place. He split it in half and finished it. It made a beautiful Mantel for the stone fireplace.



He had a lot of help. I don't know who to give credit to, but I'm sure he had a lot of help. And here they're getting ready to lay it. I think that's Dave up on top of the next to the fireplace. There's Bubba and Carl and Dennis and we're going to set the Mantel.

# EAA Building Setting the mantel



Here's the EAA building dedication. That's Bert Wilcott and Don Staats, and that's Sig taking pictures. That's the beginning.



And here's our logo on a bumper sticker.





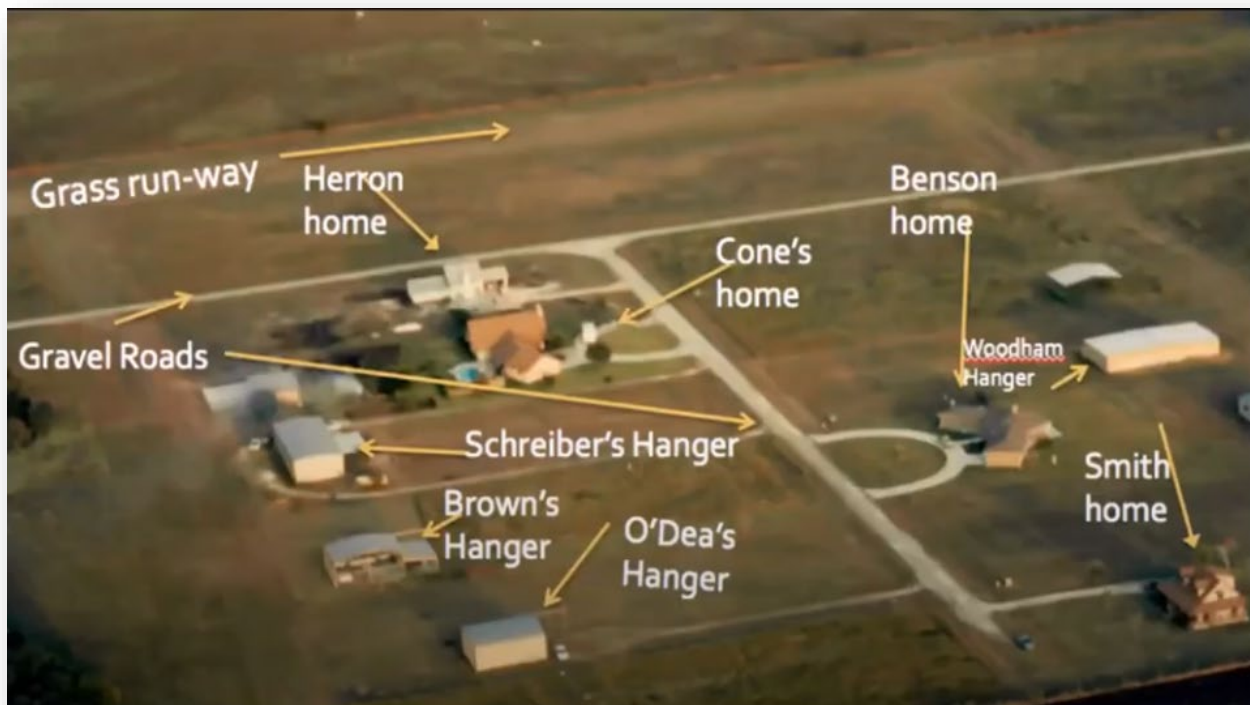
Bubba carved a stone, “so we may fly forever” with all the names of the founders on it, and I think it’s a beautiful stone. Of course I may be a little prejudiced.



And we're still smiling! look at those smiles. These are the founders in 1993. You almost can't see Gail there behind Dennis, but anyway there we are.



And here we still have a grass runway and still have gravel roads, but here's some of the houses that were there. The Herons built their house right there, then we have Brown's hanger, O'Dea's hanger and we had the Benson home was built. There's Woodhams hanger and the Smith home. That's what was caught in that picture



And here's the picnic at the masons. He's still finishing his house and we all came to join in and enjoy. We still enjoyed the picnics every Sunday.



And here's Lew in the snow. I guess it was a little too cold to work, but anyway house is getting built.



And here's their home not all the rock works done yet but it's there coming on.



And here's the masons with Groucho. This is their fireplace and a little kitten named Groucho. I remember him well.



And here's Lew the rock layer. Smokey joe's sitting down and Dennis is watching Lew as he's doing his rock wall on the hanger.



And there's Groucho. He's asleep. He doesn't care what's going on. He's just asleep.



And here's Ron and BJ O'Dea's going up on the foundation.



There's their back porch.



And the front. The rock work's not done yet but it's coming.



Almost complete now. Got all the rock work done.





And there's BJ and Ron's old days Beechcraft Bonanza, a beautiful airplane.



And there's their Citabria.



And here's the founders in 2012 still grinning must be good to all be together.



Here's a man named Max Krueger and with his WACO. I don't know what year the WACO was but, maybe somebody else does. He was a favorite out here and always flew in, and would give you a ride once in a while.



And here we go from the left there's Jackie, there's Max, Gail, Shirley, Dave, Bubba, Dennis, Jill, Joe and Dan. We would always come and visit with him he was a nice guy.



And here's the Hunts hanger from the aerial view with the chipmunk on the pad. We still had gravel roads in 1986. I can remember how dusty our cars used to get but that's just part of life. We had to wait till we get things done.



The old house was over here at the top middle [of the photo] but this part in this circle drive of ours was where the trash pile was. I found a whole lot of old clay bottles with German writing on them, and I still have some of the bottles that was found there, you know like the old-time medicines and things.

Here's Dan and Rosalie Cerna's home. And here's Bubba and Smokey Joe and I do not know the other fellow's name and Dan is standing there.



It's going up and there they are again, all three of them. Doesn't look like Bubba Hunt's doing much work there. Looks like he's jawboning.



Well anyway there's Rosalie with her home going up.



There's Dan Cerna Starduster too. beautiful plane.



There's Art Brown with Aeronica champ.



He was taking Wilson Murray flying with him that day.





And there's Bubba hunt sitting out behind the hangar carving our mantel for our home. He enjoyed that.



There's our home going up in November 1994. And would you believe that morning when I went out there looking at all this amazing work the guys have done, he says "okay where do you want your electrical plugs for the living room"? Oh lord have mercy! I didn't really get one of the plugs right because it's sitting under the couch today.



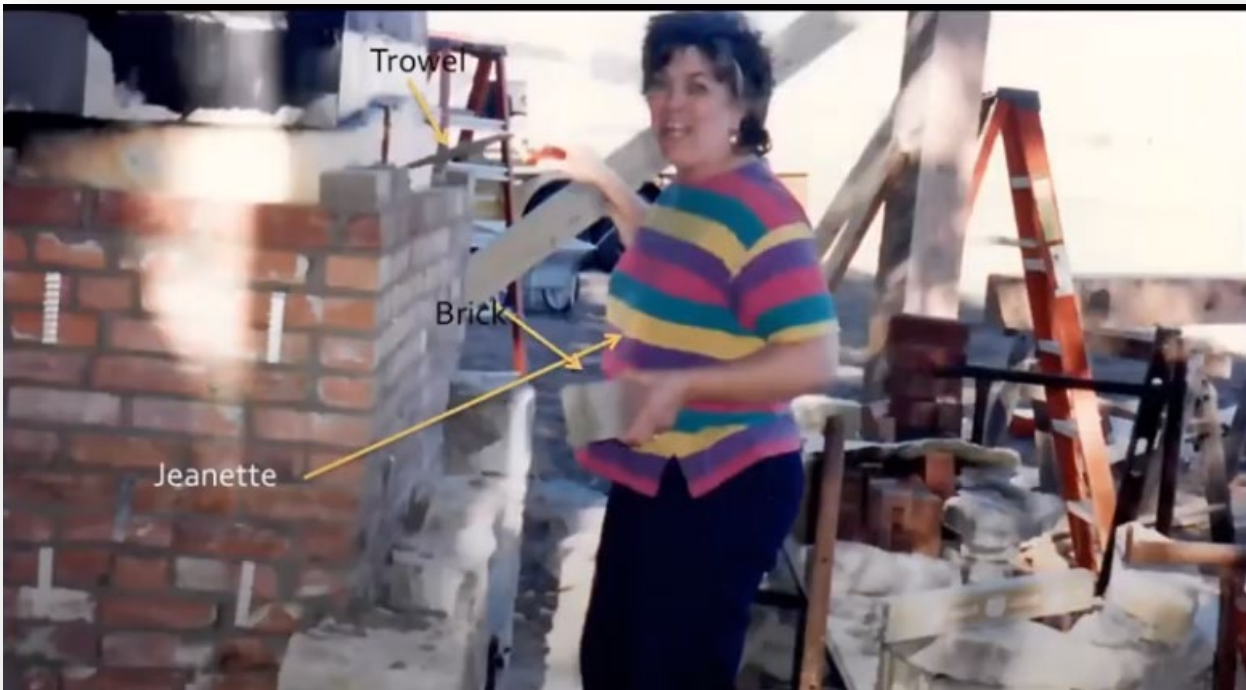
There's Bubba inspecting the work going up on our home.



And here's the octagon going up and up.



And there I am, so you can just add “bricklayer” to my resume. Of course you'll never get to see it because it's in the back part of the fireplace. That's the only place he'd let me work.



And there's the master carver himself with his beautiful fireplace which I enjoy today.



And there's Bubba and Terry's skybolt. They enjoyed that airplane too.



Bubba and I had five airplanes in our 53 years of marriage.

And here is our home. I've forgotten whose plane that is. It was a kid up at Bonita lake, but anyway we let him park in the yard when he'd come over to the airport. He later got a helicopter and didn't need to park.



Here's Dave and Shirley Baker's home going up. Always got to start with the foundation.



And there goes the wood up.



Now we're up to the insulation.



And there goes the roof and the brickwork.



And the chimney in the back.





There's their hanger going up with their airplane. I forget what type of airplane it is. Forgive me Dave.



Here goes the aluminum up on the on the outside.



And there's the finished home now.



When Dave Baker and Shirley left, Marie Claire bought this home and she lives there now.

And there's Larry and Marie Claire's Grumman.



She loves flying that airplane.

Okay this is the first landing on the plowed field in 1981. San Geronimo paid \$84,000 for a 40 by 3,000 foot paved runway in 1997. So, there's the difference and look at all the hangers we built since.



Now here's some homes. We'll start the top left. There's O'Dea's home and there's the Browns. Here's my McCinnis and Molinorno. Here's Jake White's house and his hanger. Here's kuhfahl has bought this hanger, and here's the Goodes' hanger. There's the balson's. Here's Tom and Paula Rich, Nelson Amon. Here's Reeves'. This is ramos and Martinez and you can't really see too much of the Hunt's place. We're covered up with trees. And here's Georgia Mccarly's place.



There's Brian and June Goode's house, beautiful, and their hangar and their swimming pool Here's another shot that's beautiful



And there's their Cutty. I call it a "cutie" no wheels.



And there's their other home away from home. I love motorhomes that's a beautiful one.



Oh oh, I wonder how many bottles of wine that was. But I think that's a good thing to do with the corks. It's beautiful



And here's Michael Cessna. He's sliding it in.



And here is Paula and Tom Rich's home. Looks like a little house on the prairie!



I don't see anybody else's home going in at the time. Here's another shot probably at a later day.

And there's Tom and Paula's 150 Cessna. Beautiful airplane, love it! That's the only kind I can fly; no tail draggers. And, we always had a tail dragger, five of them. But anyway Tom and I didn't fit real good in that Cessna our shoulders were too wide



Here's Paula and Tom's home in the snow. We do have snow here sometimes. That's beautiful

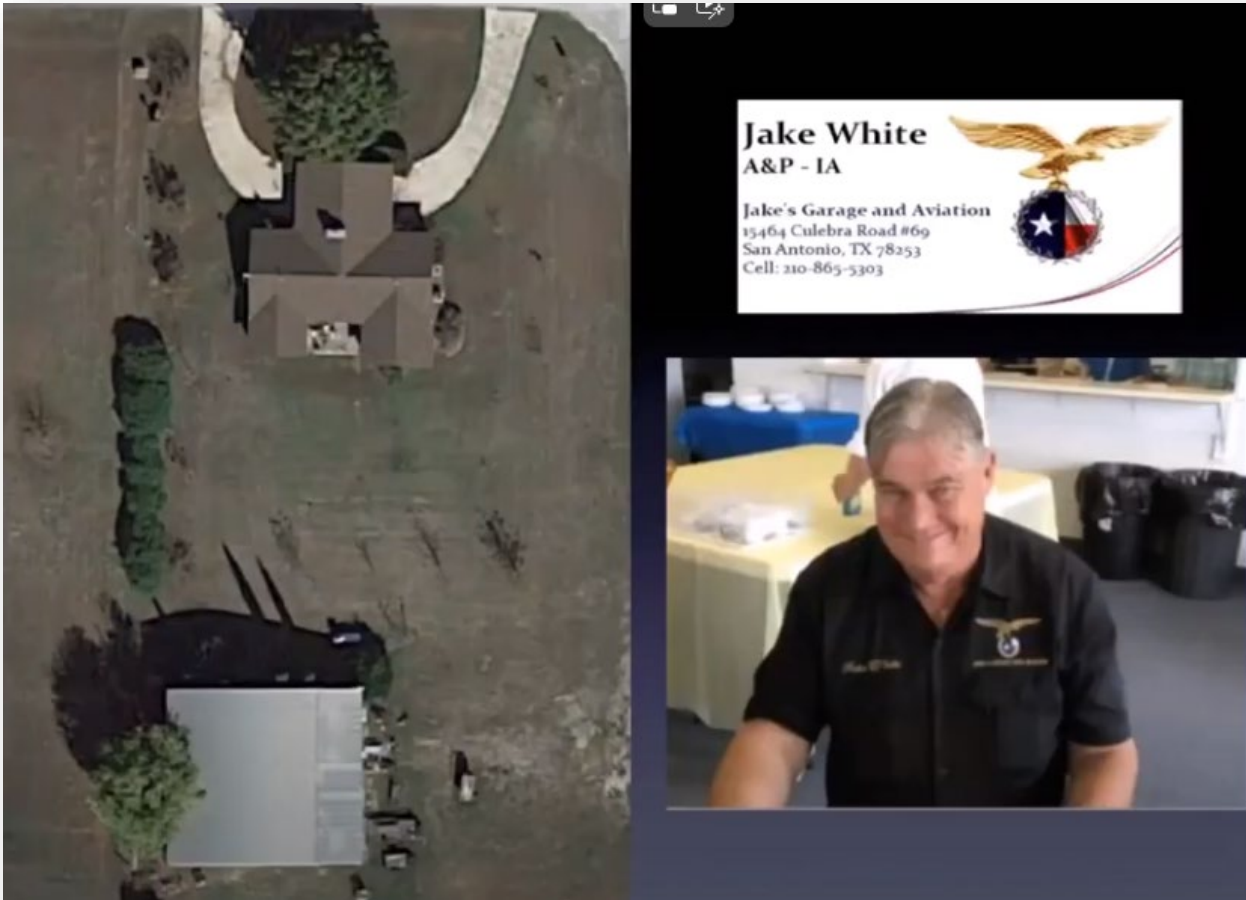




And there's the sunrise from Paula and Tom's hangar. That's gorgeous!



And here's Jake White's aerial shot of his home and his hangar and he's in aviation business and he's got a real big ring on today



There's Carrie and Greg's home. That's beautiful.



And there's the back of their home.



We used to celebrate May birthdays, or monthly we would celebrate whosoever birthday it was. So there's Dave baker and Shirley, Don Mccarley and Ruth and I really don't know the other two's names but I recognize their faces.



And here's some red-hatters, Ruth Heron and Georgie Brown.



We were called “the tree people” because. well I hate to say it, but we got here first; and we chose all the trees. Dan Cerna platted it out that way and he drew up all the plans and everything and so that's just the way it goes. Everybody else had to plant their own trees.



So here we have the Baker's house and then the Cerna's went next. And then we have the Masons and the Scheidts, and we're under the trees. Terry Mcfadden's plot is here. So then we have the lot of the EAA building. It is even under the shade of the tree. We have Becker's, Ramos, Reeves, Rich, Balsam, Goode and Kuhfahl and this is Bob Bruce's lot.

Here's a picture that's a little bit blurred, but it gives you a good look at the runway and there in the front is the EAA building, and there's the ops building. We've got a few planes there, and now you can almost see the hunts underneath the trees here. This red hanger was the first one we built.



The property owners association was formed in July 1, 2015. The first officers were Brian Goode, Ron O'Dea, Dennis, Lew and Dave.

There's 8t8. You can see it from an aerial shot. I love that you can see the long road that we had to go to get there



And here's some more aerial views of the houses. I see a lot of building going and a lot of places are not finished yet. But this is the Cones' house, I recognize that. Here's Jake's house in his hangar. This must be Kuhfahl's, I think, it's right at the end of the runway. This looks like a concrete truck. I don't know whose house they're building. But this looks like BJ and Ron's is being built



Here's the old Snoopy. That's a beautiful thing. It's a wind, well they call them a tetrahedron. Bubba's built a few of those in his life, but I don't remember who built this one. But we have snoopy on the field, and that's always good.





And here we got snow and also summer so we may fly forever no matter the weather.



I think Tom made that up. That's great. That's what we are here for. This San Geronimo airport was a pilot's dream. My husband just had a dream of living here and so did other people, and that's what made us all work together very nicely. We all had different views. There were a few disagreements, but we overcame them.

And so, here's a beautiful sunset to end this presentation.

