

PBY-5A WW-II Seaplane



This is the story of PBY-5A, CATALINA Strawberry 5 discovery and restoration for the US Navy museum in San Diego. It was the only remaining intact PBY-5 Catalina remaining in the world, and it was discovered in South Africa .

PBY " STRAWBERRY 5 " was the plane that found the Japanese carriers in the 'Battle of Midway' which became the turning point of WW-II in the Pacific. That's why this airplane is so historically important. It was also one of the first planes to have a Flight Engineer (FE) on it. Wait until you see where the FE sits!!!



For the full story, [click here.](#)



The Prez Sez...

by Darrel Sauder

May rains bring flying pains (sorry, just had to say that). Anybody got floats for your airplane? May be awhile before you get a chance like this again. If not, you can at least let your airplane sit outside and get a nice distilled water wash. Nuff said..

Ahhhhhh..June....weather will hopefully clear up. Back to burger burns, breakfast at our hanger in Sturgis on the 6th, B-17 rides beginning on the 15th, Rapid City Regional Open House on the 20th...all great opportunities for pitching in and supporting our chapter's activities.

We have heard a lot of stories and presentations on military flying and associated activities. At our last meeting we heard what it was like to be the wife of a military pilot during WWII. Grace Childs gave a very interesting account of being a pilot's wife and mother during that era. How would you like to move 21 times in a few short years? (I have trouble moving out of bed in the mornings).

Oshkosh is coming the end of July. Chapter 289 in Sioux Falls still has a few bus tickets available for the 4 day trip to Oshkosh and back. I signed up for the one two years ago and again for the one that is going this year. Easy and good news for pilots; it is probably the cheapest way you will find to go. Inquire via Chapter 289's web site.

June's meeting will be open to tall tales (not tails). Feel free to embellish your stories; they only have to be 10 percent true. We would particularly welcome any airplane project stories.

Don't forget to floss.



Grace visits with longtime friend Joy Olson.



Grace talks about her life as an Air Force wife.



May Mystery Plane
Douglas Commuter

This unlikely design of a small, low powered light plane was a total departure from Douglas' primary efforts in producing military and high performance commercial aircraft at that time.

RAP Open House & Fly-in

[Click here](#) to go to a website that can guide you through volunteering for the various RAP Open House activities. There are sections for B-17 Bomber escorts, static aircraft displays, manpower, and booths/activities.

This is a fly-in and any help in getting the word out to local airports and pilots would be appreciated!

Additional information is on page 5. Feel free to call Shawn (390-0645) if you have any further questions.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, June 9

at **Chapter 39 Clubhouse**

6:00 Burger Burn (Rick's Hangar)

(Please bring salad, dessert, or munchies to share)

7:00 Meeting

Program: Storytelling: Share your favorite good, bad, and/or ugly flying story.



COME ONE, COME ALL!

Sauders' Fly-in/Drive-in Breakfast

June 6 at Darrel's hangar at Sturgis Airport
 9:00

Contact info: Darrel 605 431-9609

Chapter 39

Officers

President	Darrel Sauder
Vice President	Dan Benkert
Secretary	Gary Schroeder
Treasurer	Milo Schindler

Volunteers

Newsletter & Web Manager	Molly Benkert
Young Eagles	Jerry Petersen
	Brenda Nolan
Safety Officer	Jerry Densmore

Tech Advisor Randy Daughenbaugh



June Birthdays:

Brenda Nolan—12th
 Gary Schroeder—24th

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Milo Schindler

Balance brought forward.....\$2004.76

Expenses:

Sec. of State.....10.00
 RCRAP Open House.....300.00

Balance on hand..... \$1694.76

May Minutes

By Gary Schroeder

- Meeting was held at the Club house
- Darrel called the meeting to order at 7:05
- Minutes read and approved
- Treasures report given, balance \$2004.76
- Guest were Joyce Olson and Chuck Trumble
- Birthdays this month are Shawn, Hilary, and Jerry P.
- Corrections- the B-17 rides are \$425.00 and \$800.00; to go inside and look into the cockpit \$5.00 each or \$10.00 for the family

Old Business

- Discussion about having the Christmas party at the EAFB Museum; the Officers Club could cater. We need check into it to get all the details.
- Burger burns start in June
- RCRA Open house will be June 20th 0900 -1400. We need volunteers to help during the week as escorts for people visiting the B-17 and during the day of the Open House
- The plan at the Open House is to have sloppy joes, chips, and water. Molly made a motion to donate \$300.00 from the chapter, second by Don and the motion passed.
- Molly needs more articles for the newsletters

New Business

- Darrel is planning his annual fly-in June 6th at 0900 in his hanger at Sturgis
- Dan mentioned the \$200 expense to mail newsletters to a few of our members and asked if anyone would like to sponsor a member by printing the newsletter and mailing it to them to save the chapter the expense. After discussion it was agreed to leave it the way it was.

Program

Grace Childs told us about her experience as the wife of a WWII bomber pilot, moving from base to base with a family, and the challenges she faced like housing, transportation and missing family. But also the wonderful memories and friendships that lasted a lifetime.

Meeting adjourned

For Sale
1946 Aeronca Chief
\$18,000

Call Kathy Brandiger at 341-3417 for more information.





Open House/Fly-In at Rapid City Regional Airport

RAPID CITY, S.D. (6/1/15) -- The Rapid City Regional Airport and the General Aviation Committee will welcome the public to an Open House/Fly-in on Saturday, June 20th, at the Rapid City Regional Airport from 9:00AM to 2:00PM. This event will showcase general aviation in the Black Hills and will coincide with the "Sentimental Journey" of a WWII B-17 Bomber, which will be on display from June 15-June 20.

A wide variety of aircraft will be on display and visitors will have an opportunity to learn more about the airport's role in the community. Guided aircraft tours, static aircraft displays and booth presentations will provide an opportunity to learn more about general aviation from pilots and other specialists in the field. Displays will include new airplanes, experimental aircraft, aerobatic aircraft, private jets, helicopters, life flight aircraft, gliders and the WWII B-17 Bomber. Young Eagle's flights will be available for youth ages 7-17 (with signed parental consent).

The Commemorative Air Force Airbase Arizona (a non-profit) will also be displaying their B-17G WWII bomber, "Sentimental Journey". The B-17 "Flying Fortress" was first rolled out in 1935. She flew in both the European and Asian Theatres during WWII. Of the 12,731 B-17's manufactured, only half survived through WWII. Today, 50 exist but only 10 of them still fly. This will be a unique opportunity for the public to tour the aircraft and learn about the historical significance of the B-17. Flights on the aircraft will also be available for purchase by the general public.

This family activity is open to the public and free of charge. Lunch will be available from 11:00AM to 1:00PM with a free will donation.

CONTACT:

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