

# THE STROBE



EAA 512 Placerville

Lockheed PV-1, Aleutian Islands

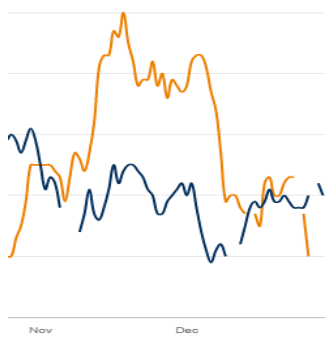
January 2023

## Prez Sez...

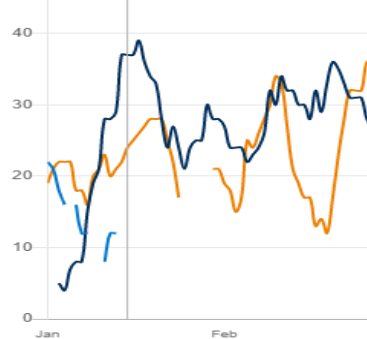
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Tribute to a Member - Winter Travel Blues

Flight activity at the Placerville airport was significantly below 2021 levels at year-end due to inclement weather. I looked at Flight Aware to compare departures and arrivals for the Placerville airport for the current and previous



Nov-Dec 2022



To Jan 15, 2023

## EAA MEETING

January 18, 2023

7pm

### Jetson 1 eVTOL

As featured in the January Sport Aviation  
Speaker – Rob Bulaga



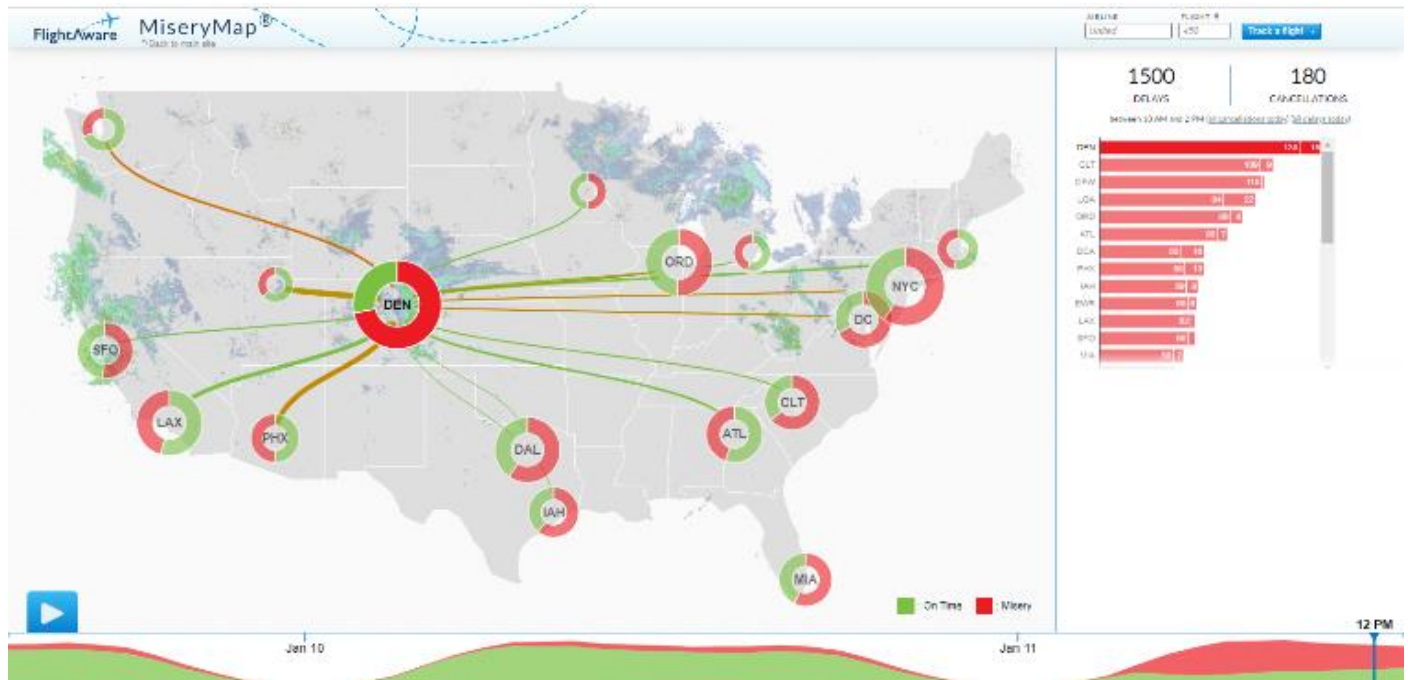
2 years. In December, flight frequency ranged between 10 and 20 per day through the middle of January, less than half of 2022 levels. Not

much activity for our favorite little GA airport. I guess you're not going to fly to grandma's house for the holidays.

Instead, you decide to book a flight on SWA from KSMF to wherever. You get to the airport the requisite 2 hours before your flight departure time only to learn a computer scheduling debacle compounded by bad weather across the nation during the holidays

woke secretary of transportation has redefined NOTAM (Notice to Airmen). The new revised meaning of the acronym is Notice to Air Missions. When did that happen? Tell me one female airline captain who is offended by the term AIRMEN?

### Chapter Activities to support our Mission Statement



caused massive delays and cancellations. Could anything else go wrong? **YES**. Who would have thought the next slow-down of commercial flights was not weather, a crew issue or a mechanical problem, but an obsolete FAA computer system that failed. Planes were grounded on the morning of January 11 because a NOTAM system failure and 1500 flights were delayed by 9 AM. A system that has been operating for 50 years was inoperable for 8 hours. I remember checking NOTAM information before a Navy flight from Moffett to Barbers Point in 1970. The same system is in use today! You get to SMF to learn that your flight was cancelled or delayed because of NOTAMs! Rather than upgrade the system, our

As a chapter, we have a collective goal to grow participation in aviation and to promote aviation education at the Placerville airport. How do we do this? One way is to offer scholarships to young aspiring pilots and aircraft mechanics under the age of 19. Each year-end the chapter submits our chapter renewal, pays dues and insurance, and reports the number of members to national. This year our membership grew from 73 to 106, up 45% from last year. The last 3 years, we applied for the Ray Aviation Scholarship to compete for a \$10,000 scholarship fund. We were awarded four Ray scholarships and will submit again this year. Finding eligible students aged 16 to 19 who qualify is not an easy task. We are looking

for a Ray Aviation Scholarship Coordinator to fill a vacant position by May. This is a great opportunity for a chapter leader to support and continue this great program of education and give back to the community.

Traditionally our primary source of income has been the pancake breakfast. For this effort, we have a crew of a dozen or more dedicated members who work every pancake breakfast (seven times a year) to earn the chapter about \$600 net each breakfast, a little over \$4,000 for the year. That works out to about \$10 per hour volunteer time.

A new source of revenue without any cost to the chapter is the **Adopt-A-Highway Program** which takes about 12 people 3 hours the third Saturday each month which works out to 36 hours to earn \$500 each month, or about \$14 per hour. Of the 25 volunteers, 11 have worked the first 2 days. All volunteers have expressed a sense of civic pride by cleaning trash along Highway 50. As one of the volunteers, I observed a high concentration of trash on the Cambridge Rd west bound on-ramp where drivers toss garbage out the driver side window, including beer cans, fast food bags, and plastic bottles. I filled one large bag on this one curve, and an equal amount on the south side of the freeway. In the 2 mile stretch of highway, we filled over 15 bags each Saturday. We begin the work party with a cup of coffee at McDonalds, where we get to know new chapter members and enjoy the comradery around good citizenship. For a small investment of time, 3 to 4 hours per month, chapter volunteers have more than doubled the revenue stream from pancake breakfasts to help secure the chapter financial future. If you wish to participate in this activity, go to the chapter website.

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea512> under events, Adopt-A-Highway, click on **Participation List**.

Name	Circa	Longevity	Honorary	EAA Number
<b>Bob O'Hara (1930-2020)</b>	1974	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Founding member of 512
Ray Arceneaux	1990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		87876
Al Balciunas	1978	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		308147
JC Brandt	1990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	43976
James Golding	2020		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1293502
Al Herron	1990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		279100
John McPherson	1978	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	29818
Hal Stephens	1985	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	179886
Tim Sullivan	1990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		418115
Dick Wampach	1990	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	308218

### Longevity and Honorary Members

A proposal will be offered to the Chapter Board of Directors next month to honor those members over the age of 80 the status of Honorary member exempt from payment of chapter dues. I expect unanimous approval from the board. And an additional recognition for Longevity, the title of Plank Holder or Owner. The meaning of plank holder in maritime lore is one who laid the wooden keel of a ship. Longevity - a chapter member from 2000 or before

Honorary - over the age of 80.

Note 1: oldest pilot, a veteran who survived Pearl Harbor

## Sad news from Chapter 512

The Chapter lost one of our long-time members; a great friend, chapter leader, builder, past secretary, treasurer and president - Al Herron passed Friday afternoon, January 13, 2023 after a long battle with cancer. Our condolences to his wife Gail who was by his side.



By Jim Wilson



## Teen Flying Family to Breakfast Makes Emergency Landing...

[Read full article here.](#)

### Dear Reader

The newsletter is made up ENTIRELY of content submitted by YOU. If there is something you'd like to share with the membership, *don't talk yourself out of it!* Send your stuff to this easy-to-remember email address at:

**[more\\_right\\_rudder@yahoo.com](mailto:more_right_rudder@yahoo.com)**

It's that simple.

Sincerely,

The Editor

# Coffee and Doughnuts

most Sundays at  
KPVF FBO  
sometime after 8:30am  
to  
sometime before lunch



# Contacts

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