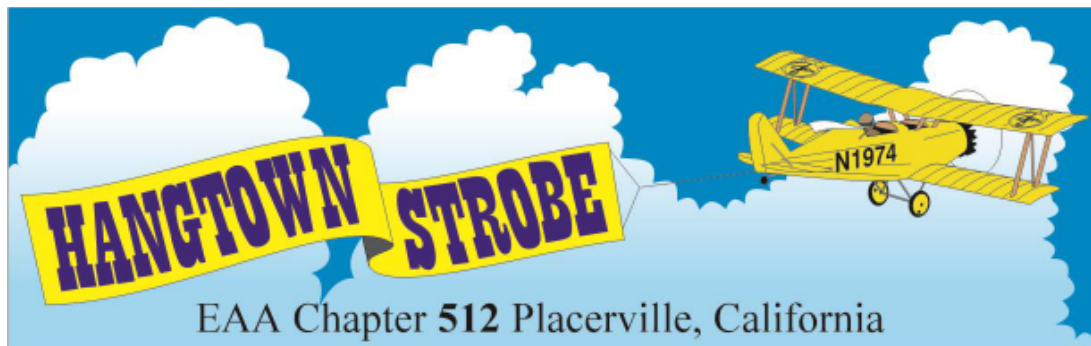


From: EAA Chapter 512
Sent: Sunday, March 13, 2022 7:06 PM
To: james.wilson.consulting@gmail.com
Subject: March Strobe



Vol 34 Issue 3

March 2022

Prez Sez ... CPI? Hang on to your wallet!

By Jim Wilson

What is CPI? The Consumer Price Index is a weighted average market basket of consumer goods and services purchased by households, or simply changes in prices over time.

Let's assume the picture below was taken in 1995. The price of aviation fuel was about \$1 per gallon, probably \$1.50 in CA. About 200 aircraft were based at PVF. A friend



flies in from out of town and gets a room at Motel 6. Cost \$6 and they leave the lights on. Electricity was always live. Just kidding!

Fast forward to 2022 The CPI is up to 7.9% the highest in 40 years. 100LL at the airport was \$4.98 last week. By this summer, the price could be \$6 or \$7 per gallon. Your guest of 25 years ago returning for a visit will pay \$178 for a room at Best Western, Electricity sometimes available.

PREFLIGHT PLANNING

In 1995, flight planning was on a paper chart and navigation was VOR to VOR. If your fuel burn for a 2 hour flight was 16 gallons, you could pay the FBO attendant \$20 cash out of your wallet after he fills your aircraft.

In 2022, you enter the destination on your iPad or GPS, sit back, relax and engage the autopilot. Wishful thinking! Upon arrival, you learn the FBO is closed, the fuel pump card reader is busted and the gate code does not work. You pull out your cell phone and call your friend.

- 9th Board Meeting 7:00 PM
by Zoom
- 16th Monthly Meeting 7:00 PM

Chapter Leadership

Chapter Board of Directors:

President: Jim Wilson

(916) 337-6700

Email:

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Vice Pres: Jim Pinkowski

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Email:

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Secretary: Rob Bulaga

(916) 983-0384

Email : rbulaga@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer: Judi Gordon

(847) 414-7773

Email: judieaa512@gmail.com

General Directors:

Dick Wampach:

(530) 677-8251



Placerville Airport KPVF is a little known treasure of El Dorado County that the average person passing by on Hwy 50 has no idea there is a flight deck on the top of a flat hill less than a mile to the south. The field was established in 1929 on the west end of the slope with a short runway oriented 270 degrees with trees at the end that must have been a challenge to local pilots.

The airport was expanded in the 1960's by excavating a new Runway 5-23, elevation 2,583 MSL, 3,914 feet long by 75 feet wide on a mountain top. If you fly in on a pancake breakfast Saturday starting April 2, you can practice your aircraft carrier landings.

Email: rwampach@att.net

Neil Robinson:

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Chapter Committee Chairmen:

Membership : Zane Ruckman

Email: zaneaa512@gmail.com

Fundraising:

Tracey Fremd

Email: t.fremd@gmail.com.

Young Eagles Coordinators:

Jim Wilson (916) 337-6700

Jim Pinkowski (916) 952-7354

Newsletter Editor:

Helen Brand

(539) 306-3205

Email:

more_right_rudder@yahoo.com

Ray Aviation Scholarship

Coordinator : Jim Wilson

Scholarship Committee members:

Judi Gordon, Andrew Gordon, Jim

Wilson, John Crocker

Both Georgetown and Placerville airports play a vital role in the community as emergency facilities during wildland fires, life flight transfers, and search and rescue operations. The picture above taken in the mid '90s shows the fire bomber loading zone at the east end before the service road or fuel island were built. During the peak of operations, there were over 70 aircraft visible in the picture when the aircraft count exceeded 200. Today, the number is around 100 . The east ramp is empty, not a single aircraft is tied down except for transients. The numbers tell a bigger story. While GA aircraft have shrunk at PVF by 50% in 25 years, but the value of aircraft has gone up a significant amount. Pilots grow old and retire, and new pilots buy used airplanes and hangars. Proper aircraft maintenance, annuals and upgrades keep used airplane values up.

AOPA Airport Support Network ASN:

Mission is to *Promote, Protect, and Defend America's Community Airports*

<https://www.aopa.org/advocacy/airports->

EAA Flight Advisors:

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EAA Technical Counselors:

Dick Wampach

E-Mail: rwampach@att.net

Glenn Gordon

Email: glenn@glenngordon.com

Dues for 2022 are due

\$20/family

Please contact Membership Chair,

Zane Ruckman at

zaneaa512@gmail.com

to pay your dues

[and-airspace/airport-advocacy/asn/about-the-airport-support-network](#)

"Pressure on public and privately owned airports continues to mount. This pressure takes many forms, including curfews, noise restrictions, lack of improvements, residential encroachment, and even calls to close the airport."

"Often, the general aviation community is totally unaware of what's boiling in the pot concerning their airport—until it is too late to turn the tide. Knowing what's happening in the political environment surrounding a local airport is of the utmost importance if we are going to preserve our general aviation infrastructure into the foreseeable future. The more time available in which to counter negatives about a local airport, the higher the possibility for preserving the airport or avoiding restrictions."

Special Guest presentation at April general meeting.

Roy Wesley served in the USAF as a navigator on B52's and B1B's. He also was a navigator in the Naval Reserve flying P3 Orion's. He presently flies a Bonanza. Roy recently retired from his job with the State of California where he served as California's Inspector General.



New Builds



Chapter member **Rob Lasater** visited the airport last Sunday on his way to Camarillo to visit his parents. He dropped off the chapter scales after he weighed his newly painted RV-14. I requested he submit this article for the Strobe's "New Builds" featured aircraft. He wrote the "story" while crossing the Pacific on board a United 767 to Tokyo.

I started building my RV-14 after a test fit/flight while at Oshkosh 2016. It being the newest of Van's products, was completely CAD designed, pre punched and more roomy for my 6'4 frame. It also had the appeal to me of being aerobatic and to my wife of being side by side seating. I started building in my garage in EDH and after finishing the empennage kit, started working on

EAA Hangar Annual Clean Up Day

March 26th 9am-1pm

Please help with the annual spring cleaning of the chapter hangar and grounds. We will be cleaning up the hangar to prepare for the upcoming pancake breakfast season and outdoor picnics. The three main areas will be the grounds, kitchen and the upper and lower hangar areas. Please bring work gloves. Lunch will be provided at the end of the cleanup. Most likely pizza and sodas.

2022 VETERAN VINTAGE

AIRCRAFT DISPLAYS AT
PLACERVILLE AIRPORT
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 9am-1pm

the fuselage. The build ended up taking 3.5 years total however there were a few long periods of non building. These periods included remodeling my kitchen, dislocating my shoulder and finally moving. The move was a lucky happenstance that the property north of O61 with an airstrip was being sold by a realtor who was my old neighbor. He introduced us to this previously unknown home and we were fortunate to be able to buy it. After a few months of getting settled, I started with my final kit which was the wings. Once these were finished I called a flat bed tow truck to move the plane to Lincoln airport for its final assembly and initial flights. At this point in the build (march 2020) covid was in full effect and my work schedule at United Airlines had dried up to pretty much "we will call you if we need you". So that offered good amount of time to fully commit to finishing all the loose ends prior to the FAA inspection and first flight in April 2020.

APRIL 2, 3

MAY 7, 8

JUNE 4, 5

JULY 2, 3

AUG 6, 7

SEPT 3, 4

FREE TO THE PUBLIC

SPONSERED BY HANGTOWN
EAA 512 AND HELD IN
CONJUNCTION WITH OUR
FAMOUS SATURDAY PANCAKE
BREAKFASTS

Giving Rides

Young Eagle rides don't have to be limited to our Chapter 512 Young Eagle Rally days (scheduled for ~~6/11~~ and 10/8 this year). Any beautiful flying day will do! On Saturday, 2/19, our chapter's good friend Dug Smith, took this adorable brother and sister up for a ride in his Magni Gyroplane. It was the boy's 8th birthday, and it will be one he will no doubt still remember on his 88th birthday! Thank you, Dug, for donating your skills, plane, fuel, time, generous heart, and wacky sense of humor to bring huge smiles to this adorable family. The family donated money to our scholarship fund in appreciation of

After gaining some confidence in my plane and ability to master it I started flying out of my short home airstrip (1,600 x 20). The RV line has a proven track record of being pretty short field competent planes. I set a pair of street cones at the midpoint of my sloped runway as my go/no go cue. On takeoff I need to be in the air by them and on landing I need to have weight on wheels by them. The plane flies beautifully and has been a joy ever since its first flight. My plane loves to cruise at 174kts TAS burning about 8.5 gph but has a top speed of 191 TAS. I enjoy aerobatics and formation flying with it and now that I got it home from the paint shop (Cascade Custom and Design in Bend, OR) I'm currently installing a smoke system. In the almost two years since its first flight I have approximately 350 hours on the plane. I look forward to visiting more of the communities airplane socials this summer.

the rides.

-Judi Gordon



Me, whenever an

Aircraft passes above

Age: 10

Age: 30



by Rob Lasater



Chapter Activities

You can always go to the chapter website <https://chapters.eaa.org/eea512> and click on Event List to view the calendar.

EAA 512 Chapter Gathering

Wednesday Mar 16 at & PM

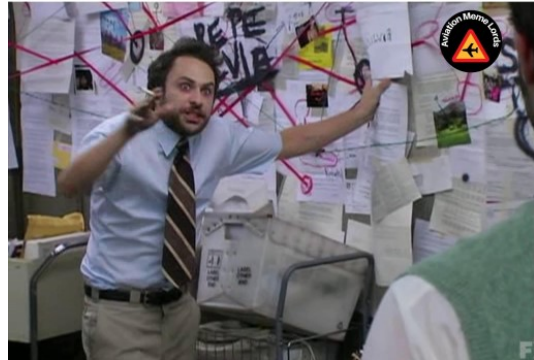
Glenn Gordon will give a presentation on the Ryan ST he helped do design CAD work and is building.

.

Pancake Breakfast starts April 2, Come out to support the chapter and enjoy great hot cakes 'n syrup, sausage 'n eggs, coffee,

Co-worker asks me a simple question about aviation

Me for the next 3 hours:



How I spend my time in the garage



- Cleaning
- Engine work
- Suspension work
- Electrical work
- Trying to find the tool I just had in my hand five minutes ago

juice and more all for \$8, kids under 12 just \$4, Time 8AM to 11AM. Sign-up sheet for volunteers at the general meeting. The first Saturday of each month through October.

Young Eagles Flight event dates are June 11 and October 8.

Airport Advisory Committee The next meeting of the El Dorado County Airports Advisory Committee is Thursday, March 17th at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. .

Me: Buys \$3000 dollars worth of Airplane parts.

Also me: \$25..... That's too Expensive





RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

- The first chapter Ray scholar was Andrew Gordon who earned his Sport Pilot certificate in June of 2021 before he reported to duty in the U.S. Air Force for training as an air traffic controller.
- Our second Ray scholar is Jaeger Ruckman who received a \$10,000 scholarship for the purpose to attain a Private Pilot certificate. His first milestone was to solo within 90 days. He accomplished that on November 19.
- In November, the chapter was offered a second scholarship for the year and the scholarship committee selected Aidan Andrews for the \$10,000 scholarship. Aidan began flight training at Placerville with 11 hours in the C-150, then moved the venue to Cameron Park to continue training with Sierra Nevada Flight Instruction. He soloed on February 19.
- The chapter opted in for the 50/50 matching funds Ray Scholarship for 2022, where the chapter puts in \$5,000 with EAA matching funds. The chapter accepting applications from El Dorado County residents in February and selected Ben Varozza, a student graduating from Union Mine High School in Placerville in May. Ben plans to attend Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach FL in the fall.
- The chapter also applied for a second full scholarship for 2022. EAA will announce the winning chapters the end of this month.

Board Meeting Notes March 9, 2022

By Rob Bulaga

EAA Chapter 512
Monthly Board of Directors
Minutes
Mar 9, 2022

Meeting called to order at: 7:04 p.m. by: Jim Wilson

Board Members Present:

Jim Wilson, *President*

Jim Pinkowski, *Vice President*

Judi Gordon, *Treasurer*

Rob Bulaga, *Secretary*

Dick Wampach, *General Director*

Neil Robinson, *General Director*

Al Herron, *Past President*

Others Present:

Tracey Fremd

Zane Ruckman

Approval of Minutes - approved

Board Member Reports

- **Jim Wilson – President**
 - **Pancake Breakfast**
 - Hangar work party Saturday, March 26, 0800 - 1200
 - After some discussion, Jim Pinkowski proposed a resolution to raise the price of Pancake Breakfasts to \$8 per adult and \$4 per child. The Board voted to approve this price increase.
 - **Ray Aviation Scholarship Status**
 - Jaeger Ruckman - 2021 RAY SCHOLAR

- As of March 6, he has 36.6 hours at a cost of \$5,095 (A/C and CFI) or \$139 / hr.
 - The Board approved paying Great Planes invoice, #22-003, for \$1200 for 12.0 hr. in Jan-Feb.
 - Will Mathews invoiced the Chapter \$445 for 6.4 hr. of instruction.
- Aidan Andrews - 2021 RAY SCHOLAR
 - Instruction began mid Nov at PVF. He flew 11.2 hrs. at PVF then moved to Cameron Park. He soloed in 26 hours meeting his deadline of 2/28. Hourly cost at Cameron Park averaged \$179.50/hr.
 - Total time as of March 6 is 34.0 hr.
 - He plans to take the FAA written exam in March.
- **2022 Ray Aviation Scholarship**
 - Chapter was awarded two 50/50 matching funds scholarships
 - Chapter selected Ben Varossa as the first scholar. He has met with Will to get approval and submit a student pilot certificate on IACRA.
 - A medical exam is required prior to submitting the EAA on-line application for the Ray Scholarship. Ben took the exam on Friday 3/4/22. He did not pass the color vision test, which will prohibit night flight or the ability to differentiate signal light control. A possible remedy is to retest at the FSDO office if he can perform all necessary tasks.
 - Ben submitted the on-line Ray Aviation Scholarship application with EAA. Ben's application was approved today with a start date of 3/31/2022. The objective is to complete training in 5 months, before enrolling at Embry Riddle college in Florida in late August. Jim says Ben can start training immediately.
 - The second 50/50 is optional. We have until September to select a scholar for the October 31 deadline and raise the funds.

- **Sonny Atkins Scholarship**

- Nathan West
 - Nathan has approximately 60 hr. of flight time and needs 3 to 4 flights to prepare for his checkride.

- Nathan owes \$440 to Great Planes LLC and \$300 to Will Matthews. The estimated cost to complete flight training, with the checkride, is \$1500.
 - His initial Sonny Atkins scholarship was \$1500. The Board is considering awarding an additional \$1000 to help him achieve his goal of Private Pilot's License.
- Zane Ruckman
 - Zane has applied for a Sonny Atkins Scholarship. The scholarship committee needs to meet to review his application.
- Language of the scholarship
 - Scholarship committee needs to meet to finalize revisions to the Sonny Atkins Scholarship.
- **Movie night at the Gordons**
 - 61 people attended.
 - Our scholarship students were presented.
 - We added 6 new members, who were given 6 month free memberships.
 - \$120 in donations were received.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - March 16. Membership meeting
 - There will be a sign-up list for pancake breakfast volunteers
 - **Flying Start Event**
 - Flying Starts are normally done in May. To promote more participation, we will schedule ours for Sept 10. We will promote the event at Pancake Breakfasts.
 - We still need volunteers and presenters. A sign-up sheet will be available at our General Membership meeting.
 - Using Facebook's Leaders Chat group, Rob Bulaga will ask other Chapters when they hold their Flying Starts and what type of turnout they get.
- **Jim Pinkowski – Vice President**
 - **Chapter Survey**
 - A survey has been sent out asking our membership why they joined our Chapter and why the stay members. We intend to use this information to attract new members.
 - **General Meeting Presentation**

- At the March 16 meeting, Glenn Gordon will present on the Ryan replica, featured in this month's Sport Aviation.
- For the April 13 meeting, Roy Wesley, USAF navigator B52, B1B, retired Inspector General, State of California will present. Roy is a friend and colleague of Neil Robinson.

- **Judi Gordon – Treasurer**

- Banking account balances as of 02/28/2022:
 - Cash and checks on hand: \$7,106.28
 - Chase Checking # 6001: \$13,937.87 (2/28 received \$340 from Benevity)
 - Chase Savings # 8668: \$2,922.50 (Airport security account held in trust. Not property of EAA 512)

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (AS OF 02/28/2022)
SUNNY ATKINS SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS	\$14,716.81 (LR: \$1,500, Ben Varozza: \$5,000 (Ray Match) AVAILABLE: \$8,216.81)
RAY FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS	\$4,844.52 (JR: \$4,788.52, AA: \$56)
OPERATING FUNDS	\$1,482.82
TOTAL	\$21,044.15 PLUS \$2,922.50 IN AIRPORT SECURITY ACCOUNT

- Yesterday, we received \$4,000 from EAA National Ray Scholarship fund for Aidan Andrews. This is not reflected above, as those are February month-end numbers.

Committee Reports

- **Fundraising – Tracey Fremd**
 - Tracey and Jim Wilson met with Grant Hamilton of Mountain Enterprise. Mountain Enterprise is a multi-billion-dollar company that operates 7 helicopters in California. The discussion centered around creating an enterprise donation to support scholarship funds. Mountain may be interested in providing \$28,000 for two aviation scholarships.
- **Membership – Zane Ruckman**

- Zane and Judi presented the letter that we send new members welcoming them to the Chapter and introducing them to our activities.

Comments and Announcements

- **Internet Providers** - Tracey Fremd reports that our best bet is with an AT&T hot spot at \$69/mon for 4GB data.
- **Airmarking** – The 99s plan to renew the runway numbers and create a compass rose is on hold, pending approval from the county and survey.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m. by: Jim Wilson



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[Website](#)

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