

## Auburn Aviation Association

# PROP WASH



**September 2015**

## President's Message

### MEETING

**Wednesday September 2**  
**5:30 p.m. Socializing**  
**6:00 p.m. General Member-**  
**ship Meeting & Potluck**

This month's speaker, Col. Don Fulton, USAF (Ret), flew spy missions in southeast Asia well before military troops were officially deployed.



### WELCOME

#### Welcome to new members

TGH Aviation—Auburn  
Bryce Mitchell—Auburn  
Jim & Lori Cunningham—El Dorado Hills  
Titus "Stretch" Gall—Meadow Vista  
Alex Landuyt/Marcella Stovik—Auburn  
Dan and Heidi Garrison—Auburn

### SEPTEMBER POTLUCK MENU

Bring a dish for 8 to share:

**A-H—Salad**  
**K-P— Dessert**  
**R-Z—Main Dish**

Our annual August BBQ Dinner Meeting was well attended and the volunteer chefs and grill men, with the assistance from the kitchen crew, made for a great way to start the meeting. Thanks to all that made it happen!

One of this year's scholarship recipients obtained his Private License last week. Congratulations to Jack Bell, who for all of the world, looks like he is in the right place and time for a future career in aviation.

What about last meeting's speaker, Jerry Glasser, spooling us up on the cockpit intricacies of the SR71? The Power Point Presentation of the complete cockpit, plus a handout for every attendee, along with his humorous description of what all this instrumentation does, made for a very entertaining and informative evening.

Thanks go out to our Vice-President and former Navy pilot, Tim Pinkney, who somehow comes up with these great guest speakers. Well done, Tim!

Now is a good time to start thinking about the election of next year's officers. Remember that all terms are for one year so if you would like to run for office, let me know as I will be appointing a Nominating Committee in the near future. Our Past President, Bob Snyder, will chair the committee and the candidates selected will be presented and voted on at the October meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the meeting.

The access to the airport ramp off New Airport Road has been closed. However, Rickenbacker and the back alley that Arbogast uses are available to get to the parking of our Barnstormer building. PLEASE - don't park in the airport taxiway at the east side of our meeting room. There is ample parking in the Wings lot and the area behind our building on New Airport Road. The rear door of the building will be unlocked to provide easy access to our meeting room.

My deadline for submitting this article is upon me...and I'm out of subject material...so, I hope to see you at the aerodrome!

Wayne Mooneyham,  
President



It was another busy month for students. It is the end of summer and many of our young students are returning to school or headed off to college. Placer High School Auto Shop teacher Al Angulo made his solo flight this month in his Cessna 172



(pictured). Jack Bell, one of our scholarship winners, completed his Private Pilot Certificate with Mach 5 and Jim Hinson as his examiner. Brandon Dever was another one to earn his ticket, with Greg Pellerin as his instructor, through Sunshine Flyers. Mike Madsen completed his Commercial Certificate and is now out looking for forest fires along the California north coast range. One day, he's a Private Pilot and the next, a Commercial Pilot and going to work. Not too far behind these folks is Steve Holbert, who has soloed with Greg Pellerin as his instructor. Cavin Moreau has also soloed with the help of Greg Pellerin and Michael Poteet of Sunshine Flyers. Moving over to the dark side of aviation, Justin Staas has soloed a helicopter with John Crawford of Sierra Air Helicopter as his instructor. Justin is looking to add a Commercial Helicopter rating to his fixed wing commercial and flight instructor ratings. A little further down the pipeline is Jon Mitchell, who passed his Private Pilot knowledge test, and Ken Ristuben who just past his final phase check prior to taking his check ride. An awful lot has happened this month already. I am getting tired just thinking about it all. Congratulations and good luck to all.



Last Saturday I took a break from the usual breakfast at wings to go to Nut Tree for a pancake breakfast. The local pilots group gets together on the fourth Saturday of every month to have a fund raising breakfast. About fifty people were there eating; most of them were fly-ins. The locals had set out some of their airplanes for static display, which included a sea Fury, the Jelly Belly P-51, a Lycoming I-540 power Christen Eagle, and several Piper Cubs. A 1920's vintage Waco was out flying. The owner of the Waco had left his hangar opened (pictured) and it was just beautiful inside. Come to find out, that hangar is only one of several others he has with up

wards of twenty airplanes in them. It was well worth the trip down there and I am ready to do it again. If you are looking for some place to fly to, Nut Tree is the place to go every fourth Saturday of the month to enjoy the breakfast, meet new friends, and see some pretty airplanes.

Last month my niece got married in a small town in central Washington state called Barring. The trip up there was about ten hours up and back, mostly due to the many TFR's due to fires. Barring is located at the west end of the Stevens Pass and about a two-hour drive from downtown Seattle on Highway 2, and is adjacent to the Skynomish River. The year round population is perhaps in the high hundreds. The only reason I mention this is because there is a small airport called Sky Harbor nearby. Sky Harbor is a private grass strip airport that is slowly fading away. I was able to land there after a phone call to a lady named Kathryn Perry (425-359-4625), who lives on the airport. The runway runs east west with tall trees on both sides and is best approached from the east with take off to the east due to tall trees on the west end. The runway is about 2000' feet long. A few old wood hangars are there with a Cub parked in one. A wind sock is located on one of the hangars. There are a couple of other building pretty much overgrown with blackberry vines. Other than flying in, the only access to the strip is through Kathryn's driveway or a narrow trail that goes through the blackberry bushes. I am sure that at one time the strip was a great fly-out place for pilots in the Seattle area. The trail ends in a housing development that you can not see even though it is less than hundred yards away. In talking to Kathryn, I found out she is a pilot with an eighty-five horse powered cub and is fairly active. I was unable to see her airplane because it was off for annual inspection. I am going to have to get back up there again and meet her in person one day. Oh ya, the wedding was great with about seventy five people and it was held along the side of the river where everyone went swimming afterwards. It was nice for the whole family to get together again and see each other. We are going to have to get together more often than every five years.

Gliders are returning to Auburn. Soar Truckee should be back again this year for the winter. If anyone is looking for glider flights or ratings, now is your chance. They should be back around the first of October.

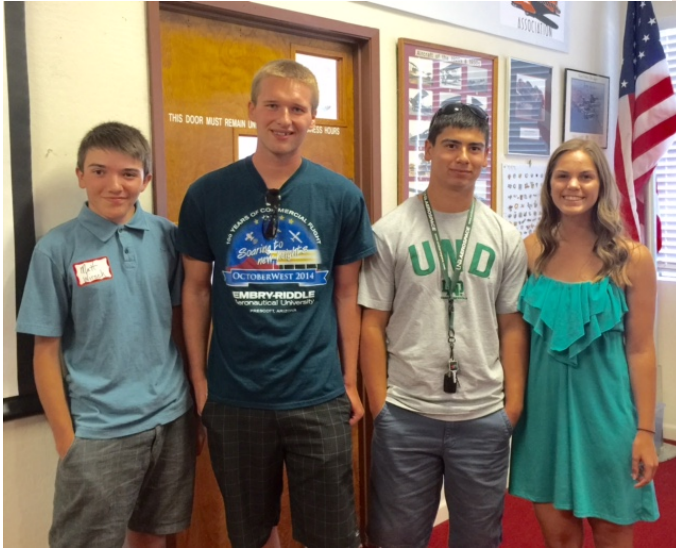
Now for the Clark (green) hangar status. The city is pretty set on getting rid of the hangar, but the fight is not over yet. We still have another month or so to come up with a plan they like to keep it here. Call Bill Kirby (City Council member) for date and time of the next meeting about the Clark Hangar or talk to Al Casner in hangar 112.

Well that is about it for this month, so Good Night, Miss Daisy.

Mike Duncan

Prop Turner

*Below: 2015 Scholarship winners from left to right in the picture below are Matthew Wirsch, past winner Nicholas Moore, committee member and past winner James Jacobsen, and 2015 winner Michelle Hanson. At right: Matthew Wirsch stands with parents and Alliene Thym, who donated a fourth AAA scholarship this year, allowing Matthew to benefit.*



*Right middle photo: Mike Madsen passed his commercial checkride. Lower left: Cavan Moreau and Steve Holbert (not pictured) soloed for the first time. Brandon Dever, pictured here with his family and pilot examiner Ashley Snyder, passed his checkride. Also, John Mitchell passed his Private Pilot written test and Ken Ristuben took his stage checkride and Justin Staas soloed in a helicopter with Sierra Air Helicopter.*

# Skymaster Spying Scored Silver Star for September Speaker

This month's speaker, Col. Don Fulton, USAF (Ret.), flew spy missions in a Cessna 337 Skymaster over tree tops of Cambodia, Laos and North Vietnam jungles well before military troops were officially deployed.

He earned a Silver Star for a very low level strafing of bad guys with smoke marking rockets and an M16 rifle (from his pictured Cessna) while trying to protect a downed pilot. He was successful and landed with ONLY 2 gallons of fuel in his 122 gallon fuel tanks!

He was part of SOG, the so called "Special Operations Group." In reality, it was a covert US special ops unit fighting in Vietnam. The unit's existence was always denied by the US government and it was long after the war was over that this story could be told.

At our meeting, you'll be riveted to your seats hearing details of many of the secret operations conducted more than 50 years ago before Vietnam unofficially became a 'war.'

SOG's missions included: cross-border operations into Cambodia, Laos and North Vietnam to carry out intelligence gathering or raiding missions on the enemies' "home ground," as well as gathering intelligence about POWs. They also rescued downed air crews in enemy territory, known as "Bright Light" missions.

Aug 7, 1964 Congress passed the "Gulf of Tonkin Resolution" allowing the President "to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force" to prevent attacks against US forces. Many people view this is the "official" start of the war.

In March 1965, the first US combat troops arrive in Vietnam. 3,500 Marines landed to defend the Da Nang airbase. They joined 23,000 military "advisors" already in Vietnam. At this point, military advisers had been in Vietnam for more than 10 years and our speaker was one of them.



## “Axeman One” Pinkney Revisits Glory Days at Castle Air Museum

The newest aircraft on display at the Castle Air Force Base Aviation Museum, near Merced, is a Navy EA-6B *Prowler*. Pictured proudly standing in front of the plane is our own AAA vice president, Tim Pinkney, who has 2,000 hours and 189 carrier landings in this model jet, acquired during his 22-year Naval Aviation career. In 1990, he was Commanding Officer of VAQ – 309 based at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island with 250 men, 40 officers and four *Prowlers*. Tim's comment was, "Seeing the aircraft I flew for two decades now in a museum, makes me certainly feel like I *might* be getting old!" Photo at right, Navy VAQ-309 Commanding Officer, Axeman One'Commander Tim Pinkney, circa 1990.



**JOIN US!** (Or renew)  
**\$20.00 per year**

You can bring a check to the meeting.  
See next page for membership form.

Pay online with PayPal or a card at  
[auburnaviationassociation.org](http://auburnaviationassociation.org)  
Click on the membership tab.

## Wreaths Across America Honors Auburn Heroes

The Auburn Area Republican Women sponsors the laying of wreaths on the graves of local veterans who died for our country. This year's Wreaths Across America event will take place at the New Auburn Cemetery on December 12th at 9:00 a.m. during a National Remembrance Ceremony. You are invited to sponsor one or more wreaths for \$15.00 each. Contact Joanie Mooneyham at 878-0434 to participate.

## What's Up With Our Flying Kids? *AAA Scholarship Student Award Update and Request*

As of August 10<sup>th</sup>, **Jack Bell has EARNED HIS WINGS and is now a Private Pilot.** What more could we ask? We gave him a little financial support and look what he has accomplished with our help and encouragement. Great job! Recent awardee, Matt Wirsh flew his **FIRST SOLO FLIGHT** on July 30<sup>th</sup>.

And last but not least, as predicted in the last update, Michelle Hanson has passed her FAA written examination (with a very respectable score, by the way!). She soloed and is currently working on her solo cross country flights, night and hood time -- desperate to wrap up her requirements, complete her training and **Private Pilot Checkride** by the first week of September. **BUT MICHELLE NEEDS YOUR HELP.** Her scholarship funds ran out long ago. When she is not flying (which is every day), she is baby/house/dog sitting, working in two different admin. offices and doing anything she can to **FIND THE FUNDING** to finish her training. If you have not met her, this quiet, shy, smart and determined young lady is exactly the type of student and daughter any parent would be proud of. **This teenager deserves this chance to finish what we helped her to start, earn pilot's license and separate herself from the herd of 7,000 students she will spend the next 4 college years with before competing in a challenging job market. She leaves for college in just two weeks....**

As a small business with big employee/insurance expenses, Mach 5 gives regularly and most of the kids you read about work for additional flight time or we donate (usually more than expected). We have bridged the gap on many occasions...but **I AM ASKING FOR YOUR HELP** this time. **Can we pass the hat to help Michelle reach her dreams? Is there anything we can do together to make sure another pilot earns her wings? Contact us if you or anyone you know can help, even in just a small way – every donation counts!**

In closing, we have been hanging around this airport and organization for about a decade now. We have witnessed a handful of remarkable scholarship kids over this time, but never so many and so amazing as the past few years. In fact, in years past, we had some that would start training and then fade away never reaching solo or written test. **I applaud Walt Wilson and the dedicated Scholarship Committee** for the recruiting and selection process that has led us to these successful kids – all of whom are shining examples of what's next for the aviation community. We are proud of this organization, the choices we've made and *very proud* of the stellar students who leave us and go out into the world over the past few years having every intention of flying-it-forward and inspiring other students to get in the air. **THIS IS OUR MISSION.**

Thank you,  
Darcy & Dennis, Mach 5 Aviation, 889-2000

## CALIFORNIA CAPITAL AIRSHOW

The California Capital Airshow will be roaring across the skies of our region again this year featuring TWO MILITARY JET TEAMS and our first-ever *Airshow After Dark!* The 10th anniversary celebration will showcase the spine-tingling USAF Thunderbirds and unforgettable RCAF Snowbirds, F-18 Super Hornet, as well as world-class aerobatics, pyrotechnics, barnstorming, over a century of aviation displays and endless entertainment, music, food and exhibits along the ramp. This thrilling, family-friendly, patriotic event has something for everyone and all ages - don't miss the action!

[Click here for tickets and details.](#)

Or watch the cool video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHi1NAbG61U>



# Membership and/or Scholarship Donation Form

## Auburn Aviation Association—Membership Form

Fill out and return the form payment or log on to [www.auburnaviationassociation.org](http://www.auburnaviationassociation.org) to use PayPal or credit card to join or to pay your annual renewal. Scholarship donations are welcome at any time.

Member Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

eMail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Type of License (Circle One or More): Student Glider Rotorcraft Other \_\_\_\_\_

Ratings: Private Commercial CFI Instrument Other \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership: \$20.00 each Dues: \_\_\_\_\_

Scholarship Fund Donation (optional): Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \_\_\_\_\_

**Grand Total:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail form plus check payable to:  
Auburn Aviation Association  
PO Box 6454  
Auburn CA 95604-6454**

Contact:  
Peggy Dwelle  
530-305-9101  
peggy@4flyers.com  
Darcy Brewer  
916-517-0717  
darcybrewer@gmail.com

AAA is a 501(c)3 Corporation. Donations to the Scholarship Fund are deductible using Tax Exempt ID number: 68-0083066

### AAA 2015 Board Members

Membership	Darcy Brewer & Peggy Dwelle—darcybrewer@gmail.com
Scholarship	Walt Wilson—530-878-6640—bonwally@hotmail.com
Past President	Bob Snyder—530-210-8537—snyder@jps.net
Publicity	Bob Ferber
Director Emeritus	Dick Kiger—530-885-4364 — Dolores@jps.net
Board Mbr. At Large	Peggy Dwelle —530-305-9101 —peggy@4flyers.com
5AC Chairs	Wayne Mooneyham & Dave Fulton
Newsletter Editors	Chris Haven—530-401-6082 — origamigirl5@yahoo.com
	Mike Duncan—916-632-9506 — Duncan7kcab@sbcglobal.net

**Send us your news, events, and photos!**

### AAA 2015 Officers

**President—Wayne Mooneyham**  
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**Secretary—Joanie Mooneyham**  
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