

Auburn Aviation Association

PROPWASH



December 2015

President's Message



MEETING

Wednesday December 2nd

5:30 p.m. Socializing

6:00 p.m. General Member-ship Meeting & Potluck.

Bring an unwrapped toy/gift, canned food, or cash donation for the Auburn Area Christmas Basket Program, which benefits local families.

NOTICES

Advertising rates for our 2016 AAA Member Directory are \$100 half-page \$250 full-page color.

Darcy Brewer (916) 517-0717
darcybrewer@gmail.com

DECEMBER

POTLUCK MENU

AAA will provide turkey and ham for this meeting please bring a dish to share:

**A-J —Mashed
Or Sweet Potatoes**
K-Q— Salad/Stuffing
R-Z —Dessert

For those of you that have attended only a couple of our Association's meetings this year, our end-of-the-year get together, coming up December 2nd, is one not to be missed. This will be a "social" oriented gathering with no guest speaker. You are encouraged to bring an unwrapped toy/gift for a child, canned food, or a cash donation for local charity, the Auburn Area Christmas Basket Program. See our special holiday menu for your potluck dish. AAA provides turkey and ham for the main course.

Things are happening at the airport - the security cameras are in the installation phase, runway and taxi lighting are planned to be upgraded to LED illumination, and our very own Barnstormer room will get new flooring.

There is a movement to sponsor an AirFair next year by "The Gyro House" (TGH). Several key people from past events have agreed to lend support toward this effort.

This past year we have experienced one great guest speaker after another. This is primarily due to the tireless efforts of our soon-to-be President, Tim Pinkney. Thanks, Tim, for the extra effort - well done!

I must take this opportunity to thank all of my support crew...the Officers and Directors of this Association for making this an outstanding year. All of you have been so helpful! Special kudos goes to Chris Haven, with Mike Duncan assisting, for their effort publishing The Propwash. Also, Chris has been maintaining our website - no small task. Thanks, Chris!

As the year draws to an end, it has been my pleasure to serve as your President. Next year I will continue as 5AC Chairman and look forward to helping Tim in his tasks as our new President.

My very best wishes for a wonderful Holiday Season - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Wham! by Doug Fee

Okay, I'll admit it. I intentionally misspelled that title in a very cheap attempt to grab your attention. Its correctly spelled "WAAAM", for Western Antique Aeroplane & Automobile Museum. The WAAAM is a great place filled with mostly flyable antiques, mostly from the '20s, '30s and '40s. Its located just south of the Columbia River in the small, cute, and slightly touristy town of Hood River, Oregon, 404 nm north of Auburn.

A good buddy and I took off one morning recently and flew non-stop to Hood River. He was in his Wittman Tailwind, and I was in my RV-6. The weather briefing indicated that we'd have good strong tailwinds if we flew high, so we strapped on oxygen and climbed to 14,500'. The forecast was accurate; We had a good 30 knots on the tail, so we were both crossing the ground at well over 200 mph.

Our route took us up the eastern edge of the Sacramento Valley, east of Mount Shasta, and then along the eastern slope of the Cascades past Klamath Falls, Sunriver, Bend, and Madras. From Auburn to about the Klamath Falls area, the skies were clear. But at that point we began to encounter the smoke from Oregon's forest fires. It remained VFR, but was ugly. Visibilities were mostly in the 5 mile range. However, the top of the smoke was around 12,000', so we were cruising very comfortably above the yuck. We were in the clear, it was smooth and we had screaming groundspeeds--wooo hoo!

As we neared our destination we poked our noses down into the smoke. After a bit of flailing around, we found Hood River Airport. On the ground, we re-fueled, and then tied down only a couple hundred yards from the entrance of the museum. The rest of the day was spent browsing and gawking at the tremendous collection of antiques. The list of names in their collection is extensive: Stearman, Waco, Travel Air, Jenny, Monocoupe, Fleet, Spartan, Buhl, Pietenpol, Fairchild, Aeronca, Cub, Taylor, Taylorcraft, Culver, Ryan, Cessna, Commonwealth, Schweiser, and more. They also have a very good collection of "L Birds"--the US military light observation aircraft such as the L-2, L-3, L-4, etc. And, again, most of these airplanes are flyable.

After our very enjoyable day at the museum, we headed into town and to our night's lodgings, the century-old Hood River Hotel. Its a wonderful place that's in very good

condition, having been continually refurbished and updated over the years. Of course, all of the day's activities left us hungry and thirsty, so we forayed out on foot and found a good dinner spot, The Big Horse Brew Pub. It was set on a hillside with large windows and a deck overlooking the downtown area and the Columbia River. The service was good, dinner was good, and the "beverages" were too. As a couple of old guys, we had no trouble sleeping after all that.

Next morning we breakfasted at what could be called the hotel's "sidewalk cafe". The buffet was OK, but the coffee was good, and the setting was great. Numerous cups and lots of people watching later, we headed back to our room to pack up and check out. It had made for a nice, leisurely morning. A taxi ride back out to the airport and we were ready to load up and launch. The smoke had dissipated quite a bit by then and we had a very nice view of Mount Hood, only a few miles away.

Of course, yesterday's tailwinds were today's headwinds. So we planned our return home as a one-stop. Only about an hour south of Hood River, we landed at the resort development of Sunriver. There, friendly service and a short bike-path ride on loaner bicycles quickly led us to a Mexican restaurant built out over the Deschutes River. As kayakers and tubers drifted peacefully by, we munched on chips and salsa and guzzled iced tea.

Back at the airport, fuel tanks topped, and bathroom visits completed, we launched for home. The winds aloft forecast had led us to believe that we'd be better off staying as low as reasonably possible for less wind on the nose. However, forecasts sometimes lie. At 9,500', we were getting bumped around, we were in the smoke, and we were going slow. So we tried 11,500'. It wasn't much better. But 13,500' was smooth, clear and had winds that were no worse than what we'd had down lower. Of course, after yesterday's 200+ mph groundspeeds, 165 today was a disappointment. But at that altitude, it was clear, smooth and pretty, so we didn't complain too much. A couple of hours later, we were home and our airplanes were back resting in their hangars.

The WAAAM is not too long of a flight from Auburn. The people are friendly and accommodating. Hood River itself is a cute, scenic and fun little town. If you like aviation museums, you've got to put the WAAAM on your bucket list.



Incoming AAA President To Serve Two Aviation Organizations



Wednesday evening November 18 our incoming president, Tim Pinkney, took a leadership role as the Commander of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Air Squadron. Sheriff Scott Jones officially gave Tim his "Commanders Badge" at the Sutter Club event. The badge is 3 inches in diameter and the shape of the traditional sheriff's star, but since it is an aviation squadron, there is a set of wings at the top. It's mounted on a leather backing with a clasp to hold it in place on one's belt, (just like in the police shows, says Tim). Pinkney is the 72nd commander of the squadron, which was started about 75 years ago just before the bombing of Pearl Harbor and World War II.

Tim wasn't scheduled to become Commander until 2017, AFTER his tour as AAA President, but the scheduled-to-be Commander for 2016 took a new job and was unable to serve, so the Air Squadron board asked Tim to "fleet up" early to be at the helm. Tim's past leadership roles as chairman of a 5,000 member professional organization, president of a 350 member financial planning association, chairman of 25,000 Boy Scouts and their 10,000 parents, president of a multi-million dollar foundation, president of the 10th largest Rotary club in the world with 400 members (Sacramento), and Commanding Officer of a Navy aircraft carrier-based jet squadron (VAQ-309) have prepared him for the upcoming two years as president of AAA and Sacramento County Air Squadron Commander.

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 takes 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 (530) 878-0434.

JOIN US! (Or renew) \$20.00/yr

Get 15 months' membership through next year and be listed in the 2016 membership directory. See next page for form. Pay online with PayPal or a card at

auburnaviationassociation.org

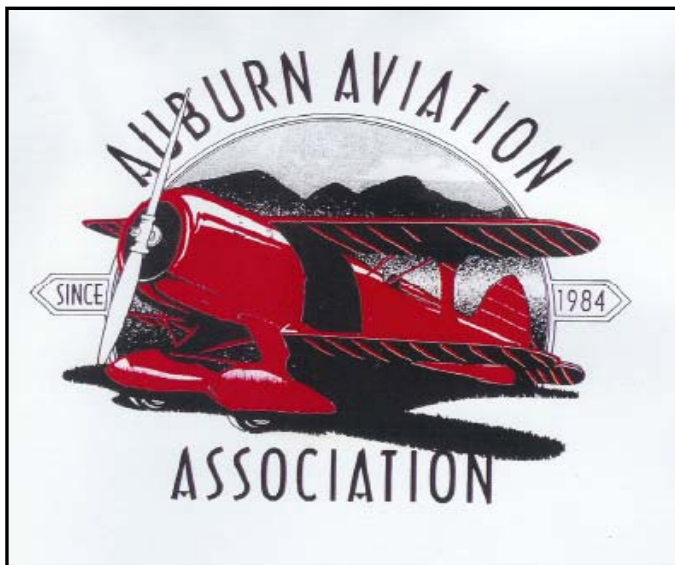
Click on the membership tab.

Contact Carol Uhouse (530) 906-0863

Scholarship Winners (Past and Present) Update



Former AAA scholarship recipient James Jacobson instructs 2015 scholarship winner Michelle Hanson in the fine art of tail-wheel aircraft in John Klueker's clipped-wing J-3 Cub.



Outgoing AAA President Wayne Mooneyham has left his legacy by making a slight change to the logo. See if you can spot the difference between the old image on the left and the new image on the right. At the next meeting, we'll hold a drawing for all the members who can identify the change. The winner will get to have a free subscription to the newsletter for a year and Mike Duncan, The Prop Turner's, voice on his or her outgoing answering machine. (Just kidding.) Thanks to Tim O'Brien for new artwork.

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 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
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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
530-401-0594 waynemooneyham@cebridge.net
Vice President —Tim Pinkney
916-719-0630 tim.pinkney@me.com
Treasurer—Carol Uhouse
530-878-9496 carol.uhouse@camoves.com
Secretary—Joanie Mooneyham
530-401-0595 joaniemooneyham@cebridge.net