

Arizona Pilots Association

News Letter

April, 2008

www.azpilots.org

Annual Membership Meeting

by Tommy Thomason, President

Fred Gibbs, APA Director, has arranged to have our annual APA meeting at the Boeing Facility in Mesa. Vice President of Air Traffic Management, Mr. Neil Planzer will be our guest speaker. Following the meeting will be a tour of the Boeing facility for APA members only. Click on the following links for more information.

Arizona Pilot's Association Annual Meeting

May 10, 2008

10:00 - noon - Boeing Plant - Mesa, AZ

GUEST SPEAKER: [Neil Planzer](#)

Subject: The Next Generation Air Traffic Control System

[Meeting Flier - Please download and post](#)

**** A Tour of the Apache Helicopter Plant will follow the meeting ****

Security requires pre-registration for the tour. ([Registration form](#))

You must complete the form and mail it by May 1st if you plan to participate on the tour.

Win a Garmin 496 GPS



Raffle Tickets on sale for Garmin 496

[Print Flyer](#) with details of ticket sales and drawing.

(if needed, post this link in your browser):

www.azpilots.org/PDF%20Files/GARMIN%20RAFFLE%20NOW%20flier-rev.pdf

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Jim Timm, Executive Director

MARCH 2008

The Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) - Aeronautics Division has initiated the 2008 Arizona State Airports System Plan. This plan represents the first comprehensive review of the state airports system since 2000. Wilber Smith Associates has been selected as the prime consultant to assist in the development of the plan. Because APA represents a broad range of general aviation interests throughout the state, we have been asked to serve on the planning advisory committee to assist in guiding the study's development.

We also continue to work with several airports in the state that are in the process of updating their Airport Master Plans. In this capacity we represent the general aviation users of the airport and attempt to make certain that the needs of the user will be met in the future development of the airport.

As was mentioned in an earlier report, we are serving on a planning advisory committee for the City of Maricopa for examining the potential for locating and developing a Municipal Airport for the City of Maricopa. The analysis process at this point has suggested a site that

is at the present location of the Estrella Sail Port. The Maricopa City Council has taken action to recommend moving forward and develop a more detailed analysis of the suggested site.

It was good to have had the opportunity to meet many of you that stopped by the APA display at the recent Cactus Fly In at Casa Grande. The weather was good and there was a great turn out of interesting airplanes. I'm sure everyone enjoyed it.

Enjoying the great Arizona flying weather and Fly Safe.

\$100 Hamburger Fly-In

Sunwestern Flyers - Goodyear Airport

April 19 10am – 2pm

Volunteers needed to help flip burgers & dogs at these fly-ins. Call or e-mail

Nancy Bencoter at 480 580-0974, nanbabi@aol.com.

Events

by Carl Popawsky, APA Member

Check out some of the aviation related activities happening around our state.

April 2008

Fly-in Breakfast, Coolidge Municipal Airport. Saturday April 5 (first Saturday of every month), 8AM-noon. Contact 520-723-5354. Pancakes and more!

EAA Chapter 810 Hosts Stewart Systems Fabric Covering Class, Payson, AZ. April 4-6. Fee and pre-registration required. Contact Robert Henley at 928-472-4600.

Arizona Wing Commemorative Air Force, Mesa Falcon Field, Military Vehicle Show. April 5 - 6. Contact 480-924-1940. Jeeps and more!

Pima Air Museum, Tucson, Jets and Vettes. Sunday April 6, 9AM – 3PM. Contact 520-574-0462 (pimaair.org). Nearly 50 classic Corvettes on display!

Pima Air Museum, Tucson, Yuri's Night. Saturday April 12, 5 - 8PM. Contact 520-574-0462 (pimaair.org). Celebrate nearly half a century of manned exploration of Space with hands-on activities, guest speakers and displays from aerospace companies. Telescopes will be available for night sky viewing.

Young Eagle Rally, Glendale, AZ. Saturday April 12, 8 - 11 AM. Contact Cheri McGunagle at 623-551-1066.

Scottsdale Breakfast Club Fly-out to Bisbee, AZ.. Saturday April 12. Contact warren.mcilvoy@asu.edu. Breakfast and good company!

Arizona Pilots' Association Safety Seminar Wings Program, NTSB Part 830 and Luke Airspace Operations, Sun Western Flyers, Goodyear Airport. Saturday April 19, 10AM-2PM. Contact 928-266-0112 or fredgibbs@npgcable.com. This is also a \$100 Hamburger Fly-In Event!

Hamburger Fry and Fly-in, Sun Western Flyers, Goodyear Airport. Saturday April 19 (3rd Saturday of every month), 10AM - 2PM. Contact 623-932-1200.

Pima Air Museum, Tucson, Jets and Vettes. Sunday April 20, 9AM – 3PM. Contact 520-574-0462 (pimaair.org). Porches on display!

Mooney Pilot Proficiency Program, Tucson, AZ. April 25-27, 8 AM - 5 PM. Contact Lela Hughes (MAPA) at 210-525-8008.

May 2008

Fly-in Breakfast, Coolidge Municipal Airport. Saturday May 3 (first Saturday of every month), 8AM-noon. Contact 520-723-5354. Pancakes and more!

Wile E. Coyote Golf Scramble, presented by Tucson Squadron 104 Civil Air Patrol. May 3, 8 AM Shotgun Start. Contact (520) 370-3981 or (520) 403-1560.

Baja Bush Pilots Mexico's Copper Canyon. Saturday May 3 – Saturday May 10. Contact 480-730-3251 or bbp@bajabushpilots.com. Seven times larger than the Grand Canyon in Arizona, they will be visiting a remote area of Mexico that most have never seen.

Arizona Pilots' Association Annual Meeting, The Next Generation Air Traffic Control System (Neil Planzer, Vice President, Boeing Air Traffic Management), Boeing Helicopter Plant adjacent to Mesa Falcon Field Saturday May 10, 10AM-12PM. A tour of the Apache Helicopter Plant will follow the meeting; security requires pre-registration (no later than May 1). Contact 928-266-0112 or fredgibbs@npgcable.com.

Flying Companion Seminar, Pan Am Flight Academy, Deer Valley Airport, Saturday May 17, 9AM-4PM. Contact Phoenix 99's (623-486-7255). Learn basic aerodynamics, radio procedures, navigation, weather, and aircraft systems!

2008 Aero Fair Honoring our Military, Payson Regional Airport Saturday May 17, 7AM – 2PM. Free Admission and fly in campground, pancake breakfast, military flyovers, airplane rides, classic and vintage aircraft and car display, food and craft vendors. Fun for the family! Contact 928-978-5621 (Beth@PaysonAirport.com) or www.paysonairport.com.

Scottsdale Breakfast Club Flyout to Blythe and Catalina Island. May 17 - 19. Contact warren.mcilvoy@asu.edu. Breakfast and good company!

Hamburger Fry and Fly-in, Sun Western Flyers, Goodyear Airport. Saturday May 17 (3rd Saturday of every month), 10AM - 2PM. Contact 623-932-1200.

CHAPMAN RANCH

Fly-In Success

by Bob Carter, APA Director

The first Chapman Ranch fly-in of many yet to come, took place on Saturday March, 22nd. It was a huge success and fun was had by all. Here's what happened! (continued on next page)

- The kitchen opened at 7:30am and didn't close until 3:30pm...
- 26 fixed wing aircraft
- 5 helicopters
- APA served approx 70 burgers, 12 brats and 16 egg breakfasts...guessing that there were about 98 plus in attendance.

- The local Gila County Deputy Sheriff Davis Hornung was in attendance and the APA sponsored a surveillance flight with the hopes of gaining interest in the Chapman Ranch Airstrip for future law enforcement operations. Deputy Hornung was going to discuss air ops with the Gila County Under Sheriff. Air Ops could be staged from Chapman Ranch with other Law Enforcement Agencies including Maricopa County Sheriffs, Yavapai County Sheriffs, DPS...etc. Another Airstrip that would facilitate air ops is the Grapevine Airstrip, which is under the auspice of the US Forest Service.

- Nancy sold approx 30 raffle tickets for the Garmin 496...may have sold more except for the shopping spree

- Weather was perfect for the fly-in...not to hot and not to cold. Wind was not a factor

- The airstrip was in great shape...APA dragged the airstrip prior to the event and several assisted with rock pitching
- The segmented circle was completed by loyal, hardworking Backcountry APA members with the exception of the painting
- The Community of Young and Pleasant Valley supported the event and several of the communities' finest were in attendance.
- The Ladies supported the local economy by none other than an old fashion shopping spree.....
- A good time was had by all...

Future Fly-In plans could include a "Blue Grass" Festival with music provided by local musicians..."Barry D" and the Infamous Beer Guzzling Wild Mountain Man Blue Grass Pick'n Band (aka, Wild Bunch)

- Air Traffic (Fixed Wing & Copters) was constant and the event was accident free...traffic control by Captain Ron (went through several batteries and radios).
- Ground Ops went smooth...All pilots were patient and there were no parking issues (31 aircraft!!!!!!!!!!!!)
- Arv and Sherri to complete a photo documentary for posterity
- Paul Pitkin donated a brand new, heavy duty, gas grill, which will remain at the Airstrip for future Fly-In Grilling!!!!!!
- All I got were complements... no one puked or choked!!!
- Alice's is only open 11:00am to 1:00pm!!!
- No aircraft maintenance issues. All aircraft made it out.
- Will we have enough financial support to keep CRA open???? That is the \$3,000 question...
- We gain one new APA member that I am aware of...could be others.

- Cows didn't crash the party, but gave Air Ops fits...no pilot/cowboy types attempted wrangling or rodeoing, but Arv had that look in his eye...and the hat!!!???
- A guest sign in book was suggested for future Fly-Ins.

- Thanks to Barry, for the folding chairs, promoting the event, pitching rocks, directing car & truck traffic, managing the airstrip, and hauling the trash
- Toilet Facilities were a concern, but the men made do in the great outdoors and the women were much more discrete and resourceful. There is an old outhouse, which is adjacent to a relative new Men's/Women's Outhouse at the Gun Club about 1/4 mile from the Hanger. The old Outhouse was open and the new Outhouse was locked...naturally. Lessons learned; we will contact the Gun Club in the future in the hope of making arrangements to use their facilities.
- Thanks to Carolyn for bringing her energy and for the run to the "Power Room
- Thanks to Jim & Diana who helped in the kitchen and handled the donations all day. Cooky (yours truly) would not have been much slower without them.
- Furthest Flight was by the Standhart Boys from Durango...or maybe the Wisdas from Oro Valley

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## **Politics, General Aviation, and Fuel!**

Bob Littlefield, APA Legislative Affairs

[www.flightskills.com](http://www.flightskills.com)

**As an active GA pilot and flight instructor I appreciate the fact that the USA is one of the few countries in the world where general aviation**

**(GA) even exists, much less flourishes. As an elected official I have worked to keep that freedom to fly alive by protecting GA airports from those who want to restrict or even close them.**

**But politics is not the only threat to GA. Another is the price and availability of 100LL Av Gas. Without a reliable and affordable supply of fuel our airplanes are just giant, expensive paperweights.**

**This is a problem because, as the AOPA has observed, "It's no secret that 100-octane, leaded fuel is facing extinction. In this country, no other major form of transportation uses leaded fuel. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has been on the beat, trying to rid our homes and skies of what it believes is the scourge of lead. All the while, fuel producers are working overtime to manage what is arguably a rogue product in the lineup — aviation fuels require a level of isolation and inspection that's far beyond what is normal for a typical refinery."**

**That is why, when I recently started instructing in the Diamond DA42 Twin Star light twin, one of the things I was most interested in was the Jet A-burning diesel engines. The DA42 has lots of cool features – G1000, composite construction, stick instead of control wheel. But the question I most wanted to answer was "what will it be like to fly the diesel engines?"**

**So far the answer for me has been "excellent." With their single-lever power FADEC controls power management could not be simpler. The engines produce plenty of power with astonishing economy (I cruise the DA42 at 160 KTAS at 70% power while burning only 5.3 gallons/hour per engine). And the engines run quietly and smoothly.**

**Of course, the jury is still out on one big factor, maintenance. If the diesel engines turn out to be difficult or expensive to maintain then they will join the long list of interesting aviation ideas that ended up only in museums.**

**But if this hurdle can be overcome I predict you will be seeing more and more of these diesel engines in production GA airplanes in the near future. All of the big GA manufacturers are experimenting with them, and the DA42 is showing that diesel engines can compete in the real world, not just in the test environment.**

**Once again, aviation lives up to its reputation of surviving and growing through technological innovation. It's great to be a part of that tradition!**

### **WINGS Safety Program**

**Have you registered with the FAA so you can participate in the new WINGS program? The new FAASTeam program is in effect. Unfortunately the FAA assumes that everyone has e-mail and you must register with the FAA on the following link to be able to participate.**

**[www.faasafety.gov/WINGS/pppinfo/default.aspx](http://www.faasafety.gov/WINGS/pppinfo/default.aspx)**

### **Arizona Flight Training Work Group (AFTW)**

**[www.aftw.org](http://www.aftw.org)**

**The AFTW continues to work on flight training safety concerns around the state. We recently had Shellie Russell from Congressman Mitchell's staff attend one of our meetings to listen to our opinions on Luke Air Force Base airspace changes. I think she realized that we are all on the same page as far as safety issues are concerned. The next meeting will be held at Goodyear Airport hosted by Sun Western Flyers on April 23 from 9am to 11am**

## Ask Dr. Dave

Click on the following link to ask Dr. David Bryman your personal and confidential aero medical questions.

[www.azpilots.org/aeromedical\\_advisory\\_committee\\_.htm](http://www.azpilots.org/aeromedical_advisory_committee_.htm)

## Help Wanted

APA members / volunteers needed to help with fundraisers, membership drives, flipping burgers at the \$100 Hamburger Fly-ins, newsletter input, and airstrip clean-ups.

Contact: Tommy Thomason at [tethomason@cox.net](mailto:tethomason@cox.net) or 602 708-2040

## Arizona Pilots Association Supporters

Scottsdale, Gateway, Goodyear Pilot Shops:

Scottsdale 480 948-8994

Gateway 480 988-7780

Goodyear 623 451-4577

Online Store: [www.scottsdalepilotshop.com](http://www.scottsdalepilotshop.com)

Mention you are an APA member and get 10% off (not applicable to electronic and Jeppesen express packs)

Sun Western Flyers [www.Sunwesternflyers.com](http://www.Sunwesternflyers.com)

The Wolf Aviation fund [www.wolf-aviation.org](http://www.wolf-aviation.org)

I know I have missed several of our other supporters and promise to make sure I mention you in future news letters.

## **Aircraft for Sale**

**1979 Turbo Cessna 182RG, 4304 TT, 288 SMOH, GPS, Dual Nav / Com, Autopilot, Intercom, IFR, Oxygen and more. \$115k. Call Arv (602) 275-1016**