



Squawk 99

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Officers: Chairman-Kathy Derck, Vice Chairman-Dee Blum, Treasurer-Donna Weeks, and Secretary-Donna Webster

Chairman's Chatter

April showers hopefully will bring May flowers. [But what do Mayflowers bring?] I guess this is what spring looks like around the country. If you were unable to attend our April meeting, you missed a terrific guest speaker. We heard "Smart Women Finish Rich" by John Bush, and I definitely walked away with things to think about in my life.

Our annual Young Eagles Program held on April 17th did very well this year. We were based in the museum, which worked very well for our ground school. We gave approximately 40 children the opportunity to begin an adventure of a lifetime.

Our volunteers were terrific! I would like to thank our pilots: Pete Plum, Jacqui Talley, Curt Sickles, Donna Webster and Paul Buenrostro from SBP. Our ground crew who kept everything organized included: Pat, Trisha & Matt Bergen, Bonnie Bloeser, Jett Mody & myself. None of this could have happened without Donna & Larry Weeks who organized the event and provided supplies [including an airplane!]. **Thanks to all.**

May has historically been a very busy month, and May 2005 will be no different. Our chapter is involved with

several different projects. We have the Minter Field Air Show, and our Southwest Section Meeting in Van Nuys on Saturday, May 14th. Additionally, we have the Hayward-Laughlin Air Race on Friday, May 20th. We still need volunteers for both events.

Our May meeting will be held on Monday, May 9th. We will be holding our annual election for Chapter Officers during this meeting. Due to our full agenda we will not have an outside guest speaker. If anyone from the chapter would like to "hangar fly" we're all ears. If you have any suggestions for future guest speakers please contact me.

Happy Mother's Day to all our chapter moms; you have a huge job! Please know you're respected and appreciated.

Blue skies,
Kathy

Calendar of Events

Apr 30 - May 1 — Woodland, CA.
Watts Woodland (O41). Sunrise Rotary Great Valley Fly-in. A hometown fly-in with overnight camping, raffle, aircraft judging, pancake breakfast, entertainment, vendors, and Young

Eagle flights. Contact Gary Wright, 800/353-6375

Apr 27 - May 4 — Camarillo, CA. Camarillo (CMA). Ventura County Ninety-Nines "GPS Clinic". 2-week class will cover basics of GPS navigation and hands-on session using real GPS receivers. Instructor: Ken Coolidge, CFII, MEI and Aviation Safety Counselor. Contact Susan Liebler, 310/457-2926;

May 19 - 21 — Hayward, CA. Hayward Muni (HWD). Hayward Proficiency Air Race. The annual Hayward Proficiency Air Race gives aviators a chance to test their navigation, flight planning and pilotage skills. Contact Eric Helms, 925 784-7128;

In The News

The FAA has sent a stern warning to the City of Rialto, California, that if it tries to sell or close Rialto Municipal Airport (L67), there will be heavy consequences to pay. AOPA had asked the FAA's airport division head in Washington, D.C., to get more involved following the association's attempts to get accurate information from the city about its future plans for the field.

But the city has shown a blatant disregard for state and federal law, despite millions of dollars worth of support from the government. The city claims that it cannot afford to operate the airport, yet it has repeatedly rejected proposals for aviation businesses. AOPA believes the proposed closure and redevelopment of airport property for other purposes is driven by local real estate developers who see gold in the soon to be completed highway 210 by-pass.

On March 15, the city held a public meeting to discuss the proposed sale of

several hundred acres of airport land or possibly closing it altogether.

In a letter to the city, the FAA pointed out that the city has accepted federal funds for airport development under the Airport Improvement Program, meaning that the land can't be sold unless the FAA concurs and formally releases it. Not likely. In fact, the federal government has provided more than \$14.9 million in airport development grants to the city, of which \$9.1 million was specifically used for land acquisition.

"We remain convinced of the importance of the airport in the national and regional aviation systems, and we have seen no information that would support the release of a major portion of the airport property," the FAA said in the letter to the city.

Over the last few years, the FAA has raised concerns over the city's lack of compliance with federal obligations such as not properly maintaining the airport; failing to set up a fee and rental structure for facilities to make the airport as self-sustaining as possible; and permitting non-aeronautical activities like car racing without FAA consent.

The FAA said that until the matter is resolved, it would not approve additional grant funding. If the city moves to try to sell the land, the FAA threatened to sue the city and recover all the funds it has invested in the airport.

Meeting Minutes

MINUTES BAKERSFIELD CHAPTER NINETY- NINES

April 12, 2004

CALL TO ORDER - The April 2005 Meeting of the Bakersfield Chapter Ninety-Nines was held at the Petroleum Club. Attending were 66 Bonnie

Bloesser, Dee Blum, Kathy Derck, Geneva McNamee, Joan Paynter, Anne Stephens, Donna Webster, Donna Weeks, Naomi Witmer and guests Carrie Ann Sill, Carol Bracchi, Jet Mody, Lori Tourney. Chairman Kathy Derck called the meeting to order at 6:45pm.

MINUTES – March minutes were accepted and approved as published/read.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Weeks reported a \$4,387.92 balance.

NEW BUSINESS – Contact Marylou Romagno if you are interested in volunteering at the Minter Museum on Sundays. They need volunteers for April 17, May 1, May 15, June 5 and June 19.

EAA Young Eagles to be April 17th at Shafter Airport. Donna Weeks looking for volunteers to fly or help with paperwork on the day of the event.

Hayward Air Race is set for May 19th and 20th. Geneva McNamee is looking for volunteers to supervise the refueling, serve lunch and check Poker Cards. Let Geneva know if you are interested in going to Laughlin on Friday night. There are special hotel prices and the banquet is no charge.

Minter Air Show is Saturday May 14th. It is \$12 per person to get in the door. Marylou Romagno is looking for volunteers to park planes, pilot sign in, etc. Members who have volunteered already include: Bonnie Bloesser, Joan Paynter, Donna Weeks, Kathy Derck, Jet Mody and Carol Bracchi.

Mr. John Bush, this month's guest speaker, gave a presentation on "Smart Women Finish Rich".

OLD BUSINESS - The Spring Section Meeting will be held in Van Nuys May

13th-15th. Delegates to the meeting will be Dee Blum, Donna Webster, Dorothy Robinson, Joan Paynter and Donna Weeks. All are welcome.

History Book Project - Please turn in your questioners. If you have any suggestions to the form, please contact Bonnie Bloesser.

MEMBER & CHAPTER NEWS-

Bonnie Bloesser received a promotion at Aera Energy.

Priscilla Spencer has taken a fall. She would like visitors or cards at Evergreen Healthcare, 6212 Tudor Way, Room 307, Bakersfield, CA 93306. Phone number 872-7662.

It has come to our attention that Kelly Kelly is in the San Joaquin Hospital.

Meeting adjourned 8:30pm.

Donna Webster
Secretary

Minter Air Field

Warbirds in Action!! May 14th.

Volunteers are needed for airplane parking and for our information booth. Also, on an ongoing basis, volunteers are needed for the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month for docent duty at the museum.

Please contact Mary Lou Romagno at:
home 393-1479, cell 331-7663, work 327-4290