

Editors Corner

Jim Lobue

Chapter Chatter is a new feature this month. Check it out. I'm still looking for member written and submitted articles for *your* newsletter. Please email me with articles, suggestions, and/or comments. Thanks.

jimandmandy@yahoo.com



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President's Forum

Merrill Eastcott

Greetings! Since February is a short month, allow me to be brief also. The Board meeting held on Feb 1st set an ambitious and vigorous agenda for 2014. One of the first major projects we will undertake is to clean, organize and update your library. There are great videos and historical publications in there but they are intermixed with pure junk. We would like to know what magazines the membership would like us to keep, and what other resources you are interested in. To that end, I need a volunteer to be the Chapter librarian. You do not have to do the work, just come up with a plan to present to the Board and we will recruit the necessary labor. So who will step up to the plate and take on this responsibility?

The second project we will undertake is to update our current rental agreement forms and our bylaws. Some changes will need to be voted on by the membership and some just by the Board. Expect to be kept apprised as to these changes.

February and March are the membership drive months, so expect to hear about a stepped up and stronger membership drive this year running through early spring. If you haven't already renewed your membership, now is the time to do it so that you can avoid being hounded by the membership committee!
If you have friends who might enjoy what our Chapter has to offer, why not take that extra effort to invite them to our next general membership meeting?

As I mentioned last month, the board is now discussing when and how to implement a new major activity into our chapter to encompass the hobby of model building and remote control model flying. The goal is to attract a new cadre of younger members that can grow into our shoes as we are all aging. I again ask for ideas and interested volunteers from the membership to let your names be known to any Board member. I know there are model builders out there!

Planning for the annual model expo and fly-in has started. We need for those who held director positions last year to agree to serve in the same capacity again. This year we will increase our efforts to double or triple the sponsor support which has the greatest benefit to insure our financial health. The other aspect to insuring our financial health is to increase our hangar tenants. The board is widening its search for interested builders to fill up our hangar by this summer.

Finally, our new treasurer will introduce himself elsewhere in this issue. Those of you who are tenants need to change your payment address from mine to his. Thanks.

As mentioned in the previous months report, please send future rent payments and membership payments to:

Richard Schleicher

9 Barkentine Road

Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.

Those of you who pay by automatic means can continue to do so to our Bank of America account with direct payment or you can have your institution pay to EAA Chapter 96 accounts receivable at my address.

Thanks.

Treasurer's Report

Richard Schleicher

Starting out in January as the new Treasurer for the association, it has taken me some time to acclimate myself with the way the books had been done and the way forward. The transition is a process so please bear with me and have patience with me as I figure out who paid what, when, and how to record it so members do not get double billed or statements of past due when you know you are paid up with dues and hanger rents.

The month of January starting balance was \$13,865.86. The ending balance for January was \$12,989.64. We had a negative cash flow of \$876.22. Our income/deposits in January was \$3744.00 and our expenditures were \$4994.99. Aside from the big hanger rent payment every month, the balance of the L.A. County Tax assessment was paid (\$937.94). Our Compton Business tax as paid this month(\$104) and the balance paid were utilities and facility maintenance supplies.

If all current tenants paid their space/tie down rents by the 15th of each month, our net income would be \$2914/month. If all spaces were rented, our income would be an additional \$1904/month. We need to find other builders who value the resources and can support the hanger. We need to increase our membership and is one of our main goals for 2014. We need to collect from those who are delinquent. We need to liquidate acquired assets that are not used or have any builder potential with in the organization. We need to develop a delinquency policy so that we are not left hanging when those that have not paid abandon their responsibility to the association.

General Meeting Program – Guest Speakers

Craig Louis

I just confirmed that Bob Okita will be coming to speak to us on February 15th. regarding the multicopter aerodynamics/physics class at Compton HS. He'll be accompanied by Phillip May, who'll be taking over the program next year, as I understand it, and who may also speak.

Should be an interesting talk. Bob was a bit concerned about not having a big presentation prepared. I told him to wing it. I'm sure that once he gets started it'll be quite interesting, and his multicopters etc are interesting in themselves.

Chapter Chatter



Dennis Lord is our current Chapter 96 VP, executive producer of the <u>EAA 96 Fly-In and Model Expo</u>, and a member of the LA County Aviation Commission overseeing five County airports including Compton.

It is my hope to institutionalize this column to address overall communications within the Chapter by bringing relevant information to the table, answering your questions, and exploring rumors and misunderstandings. As a Chapter, we need to move forward with good decision making and good decisions are based upon good information.

I volunteered to become your Vice President for this term on one condition and that is that I didn't sit around waiting for the President to be absent so I could run the Board meeting. It is my belief, in my years of experience sitting on Boards, that Officers (especially VP's) should have assigned responsibilities and be the Chair of those subcommittees. Sub-committees should meet as required and bring results to the Board and the membership. This prevents Board meetings from becoming "Committee meetings".

Now responsible for "Membership and Marketing", I am working with Dave Bristol and Jim Lobue in changing our image both within the Chapter and to the world electronically. There is much to do; so very much. But, there is a plan.

First we are defining what we, as a Chapter, need to do. In simple terms, this is called a requirements definition study. Often, these items boil down to what it takes just to keep the doors open on this non-profit organization. Then, we flowchart the processes by how things must happen. For example, you don't put the sugar in the coffee before your percolate it (you can, but someone isn't going to like it!).

Next, we take these processes and automate them. Sometimes it is done on the website and other times internally. I am a believer in letting the machines do the work and we manage the systems. KISS is good acronym although I prefer it to mean "Keep It Silly Simple". In the end, the Board ends up with good information upon which it can base its decisions upon. Call it what you wish; logical or just good business practice.

You can help. I know there is great talent within our Chapter and we need your insights and expertise; even your gripes. Why? Because we cannot address concerns or improve processes without your input. After all, you may not like sugar in your coffee!

Dennis is easily reached at DCLord@Hotmail.com or at 310.612.2751 and he looks forward to hearing from members. Comments and materials received may be used for future columns or responded to privately upon request.

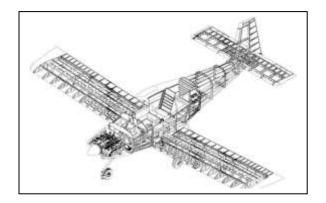
Upcoming Events

Chapter General Meeting and BBQ Saturday, 15 February, 10:00

Chapter Board of Directors Meeting Saturday, 1 March, 09:00

Chapter General Meeting and BBQ Saturday, 15 March, 10:00

Meetings are at CPM. 1017 Alondra Blvd Compton, CA 90220



NEWSLETTER IDEAS OR ARTICLES?

Send your newsletter ideas or articles to <u>jimandmandy@yahoo.com</u>

EAA Chapter #96

1017 Alondra Blvd Compton, CA 90220

