

# PENINSULA FLYER

South Bay

SoCal

March 2015

## Editors Corner

*Jim Lobue*

I'm always looking for member written and submitted articles for **your** newsletter. Please email me with articles, suggestions, and/or comments. Thanks.

[jimandmandy@yahoo.com](mailto:jimandmandy@yahoo.com)



## President's Forum

*Merrill Eastcott*

I have several items to discuss with you, the members, this month. The first item is regarding the Chapter sending a young person to the summer EAA air academy at Oshkosh. We have reserved one space for the senior group (ages 16-18). The dates are July 24 thru Aug 1, 2015. We had to designate "male" or "female", and with no candidate as of the deadline to declare, we defaulted to "male." If you know of a deserving young man already interested in aviation, please get his name to Keith Spreuer so that he can forward an application. The chapter will pay for the tuition (includes meals and lodging), but the chosen individual will be responsible for the transportation to and from Oshkosh.

The second item is to publicize the upcoming Compton Airport open house Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Their original request would have included all of our area in the fenced off portion of the open house, shutting down most of our ability to move aircraft in and out of the hangar and the outside tie-down spaces. This is being renegotiated as we speak, so stay tuned for the final impact. We may need a few volunteers to interface with the public on that day but past experience is that not many of the general public found their way to our hangar. We have also agreed to conduct a Young Eagles event for the public that day in support of the open house.

Next, we are hosting a very important speaker at the membership meeting this Saturday. Jim Gates from the Western Museum of Flight at the Torrance Airport will present a unique offer for our Chapter to partner with the museum hosting the Ford Trimotor aircraft in 2016. This could be a revenue sharing opportunity for the Chapter. He will also inform us of the Collings Foundation sponsored Wings of Freedom visit to TOA during the tribute to Louis Zamperini celebration this May 4 – 6.

*Continued on page two.*

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Editor's Corner, Reports

Upcoming events, Chapter Chatter

Bob Archer Obituary, Ads

There will be a B-24, a B-17, a B-25 and a P-51 available for ground tours and rides. He will be offering volunteer slots we can fill as a means to gain experience for next year's Trimotor effort. You can learn about this event and volunteer at the site: [www.torranceairport.org](http://www.torranceairport.org).

Lastly, some news about what is really new in the kit building industry. I got a call from a representative of the Samson Motorworks company that are in full scale wind tunnel testing of a prototype flying car. This is no boxy slow VW type as past attempts at this concept were, but a 200 mph version that already out performs a Jaguar XK8 on the ground! I hope to get them to present at one of our membership meetings, but in the mean time, check out the site [www.samsonmotorworks.com/switchblade](http://www.samsonmotorworks.com/switchblade). The Switchblade will be offered as an experimental/homebuilt class aircraft.

I hope to see all of you this Saturday at what will be a really interesting and informative meeting.

## Financial Report

*Richard Schleicher*

Beginning bank balance:	\$15129.99	Pay Pal
balance:	\$260.00	
Ending balance	\$ 13150.96	
Income/deposits	\$ 3905.00	
Expenditures	\$ 6081.29	

Break down of expense for the month:

Hanger rent	\$3518.82	
EAA annual fee	\$ 100.00	
Edison	\$ 140.09	
Water	\$ pending bill	
Hanger Maint.	\$ 171.25	
BBQ supplies	\$ 734.13	\$600 of this is new
BBQ		
Property Insurance	\$1417.00	

We had a negative cash flow for the month due to insurance premium expense and the purchase of a new BBQ. Membership remains a slow income.

PayPal income for Feb = \$252.00 and is not part of the above deposit amount.

For any detailed reports or specific inquiries of any income/expenditures for the association, please send your inquiries to [ops@actsworld.com](mailto:ops@actsworld.com)

As reported by:  
Rich Schleicher EAA Treasurer

Current bank balance as of 2/06/15: \$13150.96

## Meeting Program

Our originally scheduled Safety Stand Down webinar participation announced in the last newsletter has been cancelled. This month's program is detailed in the President's Forum above.

## Hangar Report

*Keith Spreuer*

The changes in February that George Hanniff moved into a tie down (actually borrowed from Van Wagner). Jerry Kaono is in space T19 until the end of March. Then George will move over to T19. We are sending a certified letter to Paul Heiderich that we have declared his project abandoned and will sell it. The non-paying spots in the hangar now are the tool space, the BD5 half space, space 9, space 4, half of space 5, half of space 6. The total billable for the hangar is \$3470. I understand that William Pass has moved a car in the side yard. Numerous people have moved items in or out without my knowledge. This has to stop so I can stay abreast of the available space. I am available by phone 7 days a week

The hangar roof was repaired and withstood our last rain.

## Upcoming Events

Chapter General Meeting and BBQ  
Saturday, 21 March, 10:00

Chapter Board of Directors Meeting  
Saturday, 4 April, 09:00  
All members welcome.

EAA Chapter #96 Meetings are at CPM.  
1017 Alondra Blvd  
Compton, CA 90220

USAF Thunderbirds at Fox Field March 21-22

Tribute to Louis Zamperini  
Torrance Airport, 4-6 May

Compton Airport Open House  
Saturday, 9 May

## Chapter Chatter



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

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### **Last Chance! USAF Thunderbirds at Fox Field March 21-22!**

There will be a membership meeting on March 21 (okay, I accept some aren't going to Lancaster! ☺) and longtime member Jim Gates will be speaking. In a sidebar conversation since I will not be available, Jim has shared with me some opportunities we have to raise a few dollars for the Chapter. This is in support of two events at KTOA; 1) The Collings Foundation arrival and passenger flights on May 4-6, 2015 and a 2016 EAA Ford Tri-Motor appearance and also providing rides.

Recently, the Tri-Motor was at KLGB for a weekend and, while I am not certain, likely hosted by Chapter 7 as I know a few of their members were involved. I was asked to participate but my hands have been full preparing for this weekend. However, on Sunday March 8 I was in my yard working and I heard what I thought was a Stearman "with a twist". I walked into the street and there went the Tri-Motor eastbound.

In any case, Jim's ideas have merit and I will volunteer to lead the marketing effort for the Collings Foundation arrival. They last time they came to KTOA was in 2000 and I rode "909", their B-17. It was worth every penny! Some of you know I have B-17 history in my family. Joining it this year will be the B-24 "Witchcraft" and their B-25 Mitchell. I'm not sure but the P-51 (TF-51) may come as well. Chapter support in making these productive appearances can result in dollars being shared by the Chapter. We are the SOUTH BAY Chapter so we should be in the mix.

In this conversation I am reminded of, and some may recall the Stout Bushmaster 2000. Built in 1985, it was designed to kindle a renewed interest in the Tri-Motor design. This one was kept at KFUL. One day, I was at KFUL picking up my aircraft to come to the Compton Air Faire and this aircraft below had just been washed, the engines wet, and they were having fits getting #2 started. My Dad and I watched them for 30 minutes trying to start it with no luck. We departed and after we left the unthinkable happened.

They got distracted with their problems and failed to do a complete walk-around. Once started, the two pilots went out for a lap around the airport prior to providing public rides all day. Yawing left from torque at full power, the left-seater decided to go airborne before plowing into the crowd line. Huge mistake and while the aircraft took flight, it narrowly missed the Tower and still going left rolled over into the street. Both were severely injured and one burned and scarred for life. If you look closely in the 2<sup>nd</sup> photo, one can see the rudder gust lock streamer still in place. Sad, but true. It's serious business folks, fly safe.



Membership calls are going out. If you have not renewed, your membership will lapse on April 1. Renewal is easy on the website. [www.96.eaachapter.org](http://www.96.eaachapter.org) gets you there.

I am pleased with Keith's work in keeping the hangar functional and we seem to have moved close to breaking even on a monthly basis. It is critical that we balance our budget which will allow us to do other things. Reach out and touch someone you think may be interested in what we do. Invite them to a meeting. Together, we can make a difference.

As always, your feedback is welcome.

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**Dennis is easily reached at [VP@EAA96.org](mailto:VP@EAA96.org) 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.**

## Bob Archer Remembered

Jim Stothers

I had the privilege and honor to fly with Bob to Oshkosh (frankly, I don't remember the year) in his beloved Bellanca. The trip to Oshkosh was uneventful. The return, however, had its moments of interest. We had opted to refuel at Prairie du Chien, WI to avoid a long wait and high fuel prices at OSH. On departing Prairie du Chien, however, there was a "pop" as the retracting cable to the right main gear parted. There was no point in returning to Prairie du Chien as there was no practical repair facility there, so Bob continued retracting the left gear to reduce drag as much as possible. We landed, very carefully, at Caspar, Wyoming. Bob chose to land on the taxiway so that, should the right gear collapse, the runway would not be impaired. The cable retract mechanism also controlled the down-lock mechanism to the gear, so Bob very carefully landed as smoothly as possible, avoiding the application of brakes. We rolled out successfully, and Bob engaged the local A/P to solve the problem, which consisted of immobilizing the retract scissors with a pair of steel hose clamps, keeping the right gear permanently lowered. The A/P prepared a ferry permit which allowed us to continue on our way.

## Robert Archer



Robert Archer (better known as Bob) at the age of 83 passed away on January 30, 2015 after struggling with health problems for several years. Bob was born in Wisconsin on May 30, 1931. He was the oldest child and cared for his sisters Jean Marie and Joann and his baby brother Loren Keith. He could be counted on to do the right thing with and for his siblings. Bob's family moved to California in 1943 where Bob graduated from Redondo Union High School, class of 1949, and attended El Camino College for two years. Bob served in the United States Air Force from 1950 to 1955 as a Radar Technician during the Korean War. Bob and his wife Mary celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on November 17, 2014. They were married on Pope Air Force base in North Carolina in 1953. Upon discharge, they returned to Torrance in 1955, never to move again. Bob worked at TRW as an Antenna Engineer for approximately 35 years. Bob was passionate about flying and flying his beloved Bellanca airplane was Bob's main hobby. He was a member of the Soaring Society of America, Experimental Aircraft Association and the Bellanca Champion Club. Bob was interested in politics, current events, airplanes and all phases of aviation specializing in designing and building Aircraft Antennas for home built airplanes. Bob was helpful to all airmen and women who called him or e-mailed him with antenna questions. Bob was the Antenna Guru to all who used his antennas. Wife Mary Beret Archer, two children, son Lee Archer of Redondo Beach CA and daughter Candace Archer of Eureka CA, and a sister Jean Archer of New Mexico, survive Robert. Bob's family misses him every day. Per the family's request, services will be private. Please go to Rice's website, [www.LAfuneral.com](http://www.LAfuneral.com) to send the family messages and share memories. Sign the guest book at [www.dailybreeze.com](http://www.dailybreeze.com).



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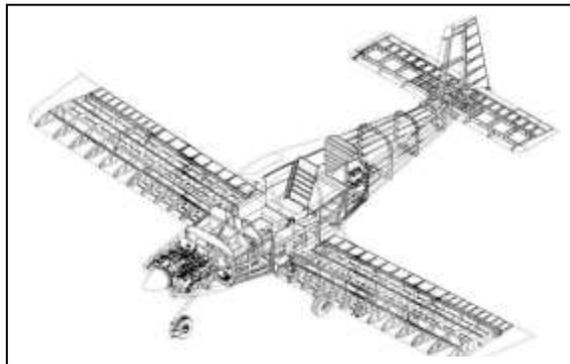


**Monthly Meeting:**

Third Saturday of the  
month at 10 a.m.  
Compton Airport  
Chapter 96 Hangar  
1017 West Alondra Blvd.  
Compton, CA 90220



EAA Chapter 96 is on Facebook! "Like" our page at <https://www.facebook.com/EaaChapter96>



### **NEWSLETTER IDEAS OR ARTICLES?**

Send your newsletter ideas or articles to [jimandmandy@yahoo.com](mailto:jimandmandy@yahoo.com)

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