

THE CLECO

EAA Chapter 393

Volume 33, Issue 3

March, 2005

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Presidents Message:

The March meeting should prove to be one of the best to attend. Initially we will have a raffle for a certificate for a free copy of computer software for homebuilders. The software is produced by Aeroware Enterprises, LLC under the trade name KITLOG. This software will among other things sort and log construction photos, calculate the weight and balance, and includes an expense and daily work log. This is a \$49.95 value, yours for having the winning ticket at the meeting. For more details about KitLog Pro software go to <http://www.kitlog.com> on the web.

We have a great guest speaker lined up who will introduce us to new construction materials and factors that will lend themselves directly to the home built field, especially those doing their own design work or enjoy the "customizing" urge to deviate from plans or the cookie-cutter kits. Come ready to learn and ask questions.

With the drastic change from a flooding winter to an almost instantaneously hot summer I know many of us will have some sort of progress report to share with fellow members at our introductions session. We've skipped this into the last two meetings and we will get it in at this meeting. I'll bet my bottom dollar that Don Baldwin will have something to show of his progress on his Sonex . He's quite an inspiration to us all.

So, if you've been away for the last few meetings now is the time to start showing up again. Take a break from your routine and take a one-night vacation into EAA aviation. Learn about the up-coming events and see where you might fit in and give a volunteering hand. We will all be glad to see you.

Notes of Interest:

- **Meeting:** Wednesday March 23rd at the Buchanan Field Terminal Building located on John Glenn Drive in Concord and will begin at 7:30PM. Visitors are always welcome.
- **Club Fly-Out:** March 26th, meet at CCR Terminal at 10am or contact Harvard Holmes.
- **Board Meeting:** Next meeting is March 31st at 7:30pm at CCR Terminal. Members are welcome to attend.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Balance:	971.02
Savings Balance:	2607.63
Total:	3578.65

Dues are due for the year on February 28th. If you have yet to pay for this year, please see Louis at the meeting .

If you have any recent changes in your contact information please be sure to also contact Louis regarding this.

Members Meeting Notes:

EAA Chapter 393 Members Meeting

February 23, 2005

Our President Peter Degl'Innocenti started the meeting with several announcements:

- 1) The EAA chapter in Napa is offering a donated Glastar Wing and Tail kit for \$12,000. This is a reduction from the normal cost of these items of \$15,000.

- 2) Flabob airfield in Riverside has announced an open house on every second Sunday of the month. <http://www.flabob.org/calendar.htm>

- 3) We have received our certificate for the KitLog software for some lucky raffle winner.

- 4) We are still looking for an Air Academy candidate for this summer.

Rich Henne announced:

- 5) The picnic this summer is set for July 9 at the Roger Smith Park in Pleasant Hill. Rich is the official host. <http://www.pleasanthillrec.com/facilities.html> <http://maps.google.com/maps?oi=map&q=Grayson+Road,+Pleasant+Hill,+CA>

- 6) Rich is involved with a 4th of July Fireworks show where we could be the only vendor selling hot dogs. Contact Rich for more information.

Peter continued with the following announcements:

- 7) The Chapter would like to take advantage of electronic delivery to reduce costs (postage and copying is about \$1 per Cleco) and improve quality (electronic copies have color!). We have tried this in the past and we are circulating a sign up sheet for those who want paper copies. After sufficient notice, we will default to electronic notification of Cleco availability on the web. The webmaster was asked to review the web page where members may opt in/out of the paper copies. There was a concern that if Chapter costs rise; we might have to review the dues at the next board meeting.

Other announcements:

- 8) Bill (I didn't get the last name) has a BD-4 that he is ready to get rid of (lost medical). He has an offer on the prop, but would rather sell the entire plane at this stage. Rick Lambert noted that the EAA has suggested wording for a bill of sale to limit the liability of the seller. Bill will eventually advertise in Trade-A-Plane, and maybe Ebay.

Members Meeting Notes:

9) (By Rich) Rich Henne recently attended the Commemorative Air Force meeting in Alameda.

John Gibson, the Golden West EAA Regional Fly-In

John was our speaker for the evening and presented information about the Golden West Fly-In <http://www.goldenwestflyin.org/gwaahome.shtml> One primary goal is to promote flying and aviation activities to the general public. We need to grow aviation activities or the sport will decay to collapse. He noted 6 other EAA sponsored Regional Aviation Fly-Ins. Sun-n-Fun is no longer an EAA event.

For Golden West, Friday will have an emphasis on kid's activities, and Saturday and Sunday will emphasize the Air shows and Warbirds. Fred Baron runs more than 100 Forums at Golden West. There will be an emphasis on LSA and sport pilots.

Volunteer activities are a critical element of putting on Golden West. The three primary supporting Chapters are 393, 52 and 512. John gave more details of how to sign up and the joys and benefits of volunteering. They are working on making the operation more efficient so the show can grow in attendance without requiring an increase in the number of volunteers.

They have put a lot of work into getting the grass into good shape for this year. They are already mowing and re-seeding.

They are looking for good ideas to promote Golden West to the local community.

Chapter Fly-Out:

EAA Chapter 393 Fly Out to Santa Rosa

Saturday, February 26, 2005

Apparently the weather and previous obligations frightened away most of our aviators. Harvard and his Mooney made the trip with Rich Henne and Ray Nilson. The weather was indeed "thick" with modest ceilings.

Board Meeting:

EAA Chapter 393 Board Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2005

Attendees: Guy Jones, Louis Goodell, Harvard Holmes and Jordan Jones

1. Some members did not get email that the Cleco was ready. This was traced to Jordan using a different computer than usual.
2. The board reviewed the cost of the Cleco and resolved to try to move more people to electronic copies.
3. Last meeting brought us 6 new members.
4. We need to remind members to send in their dues. Louis will send Harvard a list of people who have not paid, and Harvard will send them email and let Louis know who does not have email, so they can be sent a paper reminder.

Count Board of Supervisors Meeting:

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 2005, 9:30 AM

Martinez

Among other items, the board considered a recommendation by staff for a six-month extension to the evaluation of proposals for the redevelopment of Buchanan Field. This is for the Buchanan Field Partners (BFP) to search for an acceptable site for a replacement for Buchanan Field.

Staff provided the following background for this recommendation: The BFP proposal was considered and a number of deficiencies were identified; a list of these deficiencies were provided to BFP on December 23, 2004; on February 17, 2005 BFP met with the county and requested the six month extension.

Supervisor DeSaulnier provided the following information: The two airport sites identified in the original BFP proposal look less promising (say the proposer's); the Acme (land fill) site is difficult (as reported by the newspapers); he has met with Shappel, recommends the six month extension, and still feels that there is not a high likelihood that the plan could be successful. He feels that there is no harm in granting the extension. Beyond the \$50,000 deposit required of proposers, that covered the cost of preparing the RFP, the county has expended about \$70,000 to evaluate the proposal ~ they expect that BFP will provide this amount as soon as the county prepares a detailed invoice of the costs. Supervisor DeSaulnier claims that he always thought that Buchanan Field redevelopment was a long shot, but that change in the county was a constant, and the county needed to be open to new opportunities. DeSaulnier repeated that the six-month extension would not expend any county general fund monies. He noted that even without the extension, the county would always consider a good proposal.

Comments from the Audience:

Diane Cole from Friends of the Concord Airport noted that the original study was promised to be "swift." The county was now going back on its word. No publicly elected officials at the state and national level supported the replacement of Bu-

Count Board of Supervisors Meeting: (cont)

chanan Field. REACH has announced that if the airport moves, they will discontinue service from Concord and operate out of Napa. The county knew that the proposal was deficient ~ that there are no satisfactory central county sites for a new airport. Dianne urged the supervisors to adhere to the terms of the RFP, declare the proposal non-responsive, and bring this issue to closure.

Joe Rodriguez from the FAA stated that the FAA will support the county in operating Buchanan Field ~ indeed, there were two planning grants in process. The Concord airport is a vitally important site for GA. The closure of the airport would have a severe impact on surrounding areas. Supervisor DeSaulnier expressed his appreciation for the FAA's patience with the RFP process. It was noted that at 7:30 PM this evening, the process to update CCR's Master Plan was beginning at the Concord Hotel.

John Pfeifer, the California Regional Representative of the AOPA expressed his opposition to the extension, noting that the county had already analyzed the proposal. From the AOPA's point of view, neither of the proposed sites comes close to the current capacity of Buchanan Field. There is no replacement site available. He urged the supervisors to find the proposal non-responsive and not to extend the evaluation period.

Richard Roberts, the president of MDPA, expressed their position that the county has a proposal that is non-responsive and that the county has not been reimbursed for their expenses in evaluating the proposal. The county hopes to get the money in arrears, but what will happen when BFP is disbanded? Will the county be left holding the bag? Stop the process now.

DeSaulnier responded that the county has asked for full payment, and no more money will be spent until BFP comes back with a good site.

Dave Evans, representing The Airport Coalition (over 20 airport businesses and organizations), noted that TAC was mainly focused on the business environment. They have opposed the RFP process from the beginning, as they could see no alternatives with benefits for the business community. Time is of the essence, and as the proposal process drags out, it extends the damage to businesses at the airport. The proposal was not responsive; the proposers had 3 months to respond to the deficiencies noted as of December 23; the Board should deny the request for additional time.

Pat Hewlett, the chair of the AAC, noted that the AAC has also recommended against the proposal from the beginning; don't prolong it further.

Russell Roe, a long time resident, businessman, and user of the airport, recognized DeSaulnier for his vision, but noted that the proposal is not possible. He appreciated the detailed, developed response. As for financial issues, he is also concerned that the county is exposed to costs that haven't been reimbursed so far. (Staff noted that a copy of the financial report would be available when the report was complete.) He feels that the staff evaluation makes it clear that the proposal is non-responsive, and deficient on its own merits.

Roger Goodwin is in favor of the airport, but feels that there is no cost to the county (for the extension), and that no businesses will leave.

Count Board of Supervisors Meeting: (cont)

Dan Coleman, representing BFP requested the extension. Buchanan Field is a neat property for development and they will look at other sites for a replacement airport ~ they are viable! The original proposal focused on the development aspects of the 600 acres, not on the issues of building a new airport. They will try to get an answer expeditiously.

Conclusion (No surprises here!):

CCC Staff (Mr. Barry): They are preparing a detailed invoice; they have no concern about BFP not paying. As soon as the invoice is finalized, they will make it available to the public.

DeSaulnier: It has been a wild and strange ride! (?!##\$\$ - Ed.) (To Mr. Coleman:) Absent the airport, he likes the proposal.

The Supervisors moved that per staff recommendations, with no further work until payment is received, and with a letter that a quicker response from BFP is better, the extension would be granted and the item passed.

The Airport Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 15, 7:30 PM,

Concord Hotel at Buchanan Field (soon to be Crown Plaza Hotel?)

The AAC meeting was perfunctorily adjourned in favor of the kickoff meeting of the Buchanan Field Master Planning process.

Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier introduced the meeting, noting that the supervisors had voted that morning to give BFP 6 more months to find an alternative site for the replacement airport ~ "we're here to help."

Keith Freitas (Director of Airports) noted that the plan has three parts: 1) a master plan, 2) a noise study, and 3) a business plan. He turned over the meeting to the consultants, Bernard Dunkelberg & Company. He also introduced Beth Lee, from the Airports office, which is overseeing the process from the airport management perspective.

Tracy Craig, from Craig Communications, the Public Participation Coordinator, introduced herself as the communications person and as the meeting facilitator.

Peter van Pelt gave a presentation on the planning process.

<http://www.buchananfield-byronairports.org/ccrMPupdates/ccrMasterPlanUpdates.htm>

The fact sheet with basic introduction and schedule was available.

<http://www.buchananfield-byronairports.org/ccrMPupdates/masterPlanningProgramFactSheet.pdf>

Peter had a slide presentation (Harvard Holmes has a paper copy of this) covering the consulting companies participating, and the process steps for the Master Plan, Noise Study, and the Strategic Business Plan. Peter emphasized the public partici-

Count Board of Supervisors Meeting: (cont)

pation in this process. The project is assembling a steering committee of 50 to 60 people, representing all major stakeholders. The overall process will include 9 public meetings, quarterly updates, websites, and other media.

The Master Plan process starts with a projection of future airport traffic by aircraft type, size, approach speeds, and frequency of operations. From this projection, the required airport facilities are established. Then they try to figure out how to fit the needed airport facilities into the existing airport environment.

The first working paper will include an inventory of existing conditions at the airport, and forecasts of aviation activity. Additional meetings will be held in June 2005.

Questions, Answers and Comments from the audience

C: One speaker was in favor of extending the runway over highway 4 to get a 6000' runway; he felt that this would increase the utility to business jets.

C: (Paul Chan (spelling?)): More residents need to be notified of such meetings. He is opposed to the noise.

Q: (Tracy Craig): How do people find out about these meetings? A: a variety of ways...

Q: (Tom H.): Where are sites for business developments?

C: (Hal Yeager, People over Planes, and on the Master Plan steering committee): we need to see what aviation businesses want: a) a warehouse for jets, OR b) an integrated plan for micro-jets.

Q: What is the cost of the study: A: About \$1 M for all three components. 95% of the costs are federally funded, and none of the funds come from the county's general fund.

Q: (Dave Long): The phrase "highest and best use" has become a codeword for destroying the airport; is this study an airport deconstruction study in disguise? A: (Peter van Pelt): The study is strictly in an aviation context.

Q: (J.R. Gibbs): The presentation is good, but he is concerned about airport security. A: (Keith Freitas): Airport security is the subject of another grant (\$1 M) that will be done by 2005.

C: (Pat Hewlett): This meeting is also available on CCTV on Tuesday, April 5, 9 PM and Monday April 19, 4 PM. See her to see exactly what channel that is on for your geographic area.

Q: What are the project team qualifications? A: (Peter): They have done 500 studies, with 30 at large (like CCR) airports. Tracy has lots of experience in community communications in Contra Costa County; airport work is new for Tracy.

Q: Wasn't there a study done recently? A: (Peter): The last Master Plan was done in 1989. Generally they are done about every 20 years. [The questioner may be referring to the Economic Impact Study done about 5 years ago. - Ed.]

Q: (Richard Roberts): Have you flown over the airport? A: (Peter): No. Q: See him!

Q: (Jim Keith, Pleasant Hill resident): He's in the flight path. What's the ratio of pilots to the business community [on the steering committee]? A: (Tracy): The Steering Committee is not yet finalized; they will present it at the next meeting; they will ensure a balance of representation.

Q: How many meetings? A: They will do 9; and they will also have focus groups. The first draft of the plan will be out in 6 months (see schedule on the Internet).

Q: How many public meetings before the draft plan? A: Three, including this one.

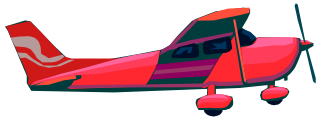
Q: (Tim W, a 16 year resident): What are they asking the community for? What about noise? What about property values? A: (murmuring from the rear...): They are the same as when you purchased your property. The airport noise was here when you arrived; it's probably a little less now, but hopefully won't go away. You bought your property at a lower price due to the airport; you will probably sell it at a lower price due to the airport.

This Months Speaker

This months Speaker will be Steve Dunagan.

He will be looking to pick some brains regarding materials used in the construction of some homebuilt aircraft.

He works on autonomous air vehicles and is employed by NASA Ames Research Center.



Advertisement:

02/28/2005

Dear Friends at 393

I am a Lifetime member of your Chapter and have followed your newsletters these many years. I suppose I was in away the legal midwife since I helped to incorporate your chapter.

I have decided to sell my C-180. The time has come to shut down while I can still make the decision on my own. I continue to hold a Valid 2nd class Medical and a current biannual but I find that I am flying less each year. The parting will not be easy.

I am asking your chapter and some others where I am also a lifetime Member, to post the enclosed notice on your bulletin board before advertising generally. I'd like to keep 42T in the family so to speak.

Thanks

Neil D. Reid.

(Newsletter Editor will scan picture and make available)

EAA CHAPTER 393

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