200 Buchanan Field Road, Buchanan Field, Concord, California



May *** 2019 NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Events:

Board Meetings:

Wednesday, June 5th - 7 pm

Wednesday, July 3rd – 7 pm

General Meeting:

Wednesday, May 22nd – 6:30 pm

Wednesday, June 26th - 6 pm

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Amazing but here it is May, and we almost were rained out for our Young Eagles Rally on the 18th. But Members hung tough and the weather cooperated just long enough to get it done. I want to thank Stephen Tucker and Rose Desmond for once again coordinating the event. Thanks to Renee Robinson and Pete Mitchell for helping to get the computer systems set up in the morning. As well thanks to all the ground crew help and the pilots who flew 22 Young Eagles. Much appreciated. Our next Young Eagles Rally will be held at Byron with the Patriots on June 15th.

I must also thank those that cut down all the weeds around the Clubhouse. Building looked great for the FAA Wings event held in April. The Airport Administration were impressed and grateful for all the hard work.

Just for info, AOPA will be holding one of their 4 yearly fly ins at LIVERMORE Airport on June 21 and 22nd. Make plans to attend. They are great events. More info at <u>www.aopa.org</u>.

Also Ron Lem has sat up in conjunction with the MDPA a fly out to the Grand Canyon on Memorial Day weekend. They have hotel rooms sat aside for folks at reduced rates for 2 nights. For more info talk with Ron or go to <u>www.mdpa.org</u>

Alrventure 2019 is fast approaching. This year is special because it will celebrate 50 years of the air show in Oshkosh. So hopefully you have made plans to attend.

Our next General Meeting will be on May 22nd at the Clubhouse. Stephen Tucker and Peter Friedman will be giving an update on the NA-50 project in Lima Peru. Also will be discussing about the Chapter giving a donation to help our sister Chapter with getting this historic aircraft back in flying condition. As well hopefully an update from Lee and the group on the Sonex project. So make sure you attend the meeting.

Oshkosh Youngen.



EAA 393 Young Eagles Flight Stats for May 18, 2019;

- Flights below completed by pilot, plane # and young eagles flown -

Chen, Serry N2432K 7 Di'Sessa, Alex DN171KK 2 Holmes, Harvard N1228E 9 Tiritilli, Tony N8679W 4 EAA Chapter 393, Page 3

Total: 22

(thanks, pete, for the names & numbers!)





Here is a little history of Buchanan Field:

1942 Contra Costa County purchased over 400 acres of land to build an airport in Central County for \$98,000.00

The airport is being developed by the County when World War II necessitates that the United

- 1943 States Army commandeer the site. The Army adds an additional 100+ acres of land and spends \$2 million on the construction of airport facilities. A training base is built to train pilots to fly the P-39 Aircobra.
- 1946 Following the end of World War II, the War Assets Administration (WAA) returns the airport to the County for public use.
- ¹⁹⁴⁷ The reversion of the airport is formalized on October 9th when an *Instrument of Transfer* between the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors and the WAA is executed. The airport is renamed Buchanan Field after County Supervisor William J. Buchanan, who served over 40 years as a board member.
- 1949 Lights are installed on the north-south facing runway (1L/19R).
- 1951- U.S. Army uses Buchanan Field Airport to transport troops to and from Stoneman Base during
- 1953 the Korean War.
- 1961 The five-story Air Traffic Control Tower is built.
- 1968 SFO Helicopter Airlines begins service at Buchanan Field.
- 1970 Golden Pacific Airlines becomes the first airline to fly fixed-wing aircraft (a Beech 99) at Buchanan Field.

Buchanan Field reaches its peak level of activity with 357,000 annual operations. Buchanan

1977 Field is ranked the 16th busiest airport in the nation, ahead of San Francisco International, JFK, LaGuardia and Washington Airports.

Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) begins commercial jet service to Buchanan Field. The airline

- 1986 is later purchased by US Air, and is subsequently replaced by US Air Express. American Eagle also begins service during this time period.
- 1988 The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors institutes a County Noise Ordinance that restricts certain aircraft from operating at Buchanan Field.
- Over 100 general aviation pilots fly over 50,000 pounds of food and emergency supplies from Buchanan Field as part of an emergency airlift to earthquake stricken residents of Santa Cruz County.
- ¹⁹⁹² The Airport allows Reynolds & Brown to develop 13 acres of Buchanan Field airport property where Sam's Club, Taco Bell, Enterprise and Jiffy Lube now sit.
- 1993 Contra Costa County purchases Byron Air Park and begins to retrofit the site as the County's second airport, located approximately 3 miles south of Byron, CA. On October 8th, Byron Airport is officially dedicated. The new airport is situated on 1307 acres
- 1994 of land, of which 814 acres are reserved as Habitat Management Land (HML). The HML is habitat for special-status species including the San Joaquin kit fox, the California tiger salamander, the California red-legged frog and others.
- 2003 Completion of the Byron Airport Habitat Management Land operating manual. The document prescribes the steps necessary to preserve and maintain the land that endangered and special-status species may inhabit.

Buchanan Field Circa 1946



A few years later:



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!

(throughout the newsletter)



Comíng soon !



WANTED!

HANGAR SPACE FOR RENT

This local EAA Chapter 393, Concord (Buchanan Field), California is looking to rent a hangar

large enough in which to build a kit plane.

Anyone who has any information regarding this plan, please contact this person:

Ron Lem

925 395-0672

And, another sponsor! Thank you!



Old fashioned baking and cake crafting Visit us in our new home:

> 1848 Willow Pass Road, Concord 925.689.7220. www.alpinepastry.co

The Experimental Aircraft Association Board of Directors Chapter 393 of Concord, CA

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NOTICE to AIRMEN: Please send me any old aviation pictures you have of yourself, your planes, and EAA events, a sort of look back at history[.] Your Newsletter Editor, Bill



And, how could we forget this very consistent sponsor?????



Our meetings are open to the public.

Join us for dinner at 6:30 pm (\$7 donation) with the general meeting at 7:30 pm on the above dates in the building at 200 Buchanan Field Road. Enter from the west side of the building, on the west side of the airport. We always have various speakers and presentations of interest to aviators, after dinner.

Chapter 393 fly-outs are open to chapter members and guests. See the following article explaining them:

Wednesday Fly-Outs

By Harvard Holmes

To maintain our proficiency, a number of pilots get together on Wednesdays and fly somewhere for lunch. Many of the aircraft owners in the chapter participate. Passengers are always welcome. Not only is it a great way to see the Bay Area, it's also fun to see and ride in our members' aircraft. The email address is WedFlyOut@eaa393.org You may contact HarvardHolmes@comcast.net or Renee Robinson webmaster@eaa393.org to be added to or removed from this list.

Generally, someone who wants to go flying will send a suggestion to this list a day or two before. Those who can go will respond, and a destination gets selected. Recent destinations have included: South Lake Tahoe, Half Moon Bay, Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Ukiah, Boonville, Shelter Cove, Willows, Auburn, Sacramento, Lodi, Stockton, Merced, Watsonville and Salinas. If the weather is poor, a destination may be selected as late as Wednesday morning.

The most active pilots on this list are Harvard Holmes, Bill Reining, Renee Robinson, Stu Schuster, and Clint Beacham. Pilots sometimes advertise that they have empty seats, but not always. Harvard Holmes, Bill Reining and Stu Schuster are most likely to have extra seats (4 seat aircraft). My advice is to contact a pilot in advance to make sure they have room and to get directions. Typically, you'd get to the airport by <u>11:00AM</u> and return by 4pm.

BYE BYE, FOR NOW.





Yo tax dollars at work!

That's all, folks.

You made it to the end of the newsletter. I hope you enjoyed it! Keep on Flying!

O'B

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We are on the Web! <u>http://www.eaa393.org</u> Email: nle@eaa393.org

