

The Alameda Aero Club Newsletter

May 2006

New Solo

On Thursday, April 20, student pilot Zach Heineman soloed on 27L.

Stephen S. Ashley

New Multi-Engine Pilot

Heard that Greg Savidge just received his multiengine rating. Congratulations, Greg!

Jay Smith, Newsletter Editor

More Attaboy Awards

The All-Around Indispensable Person award to Steve Bevitt. He befits his station as club President because he's the brains of the outfit. Steve helps us do the best we can by his example of intelligence, tolerance, and resourcefulness.

Frank Riebli gets the Best Researched Newsletter Articles award for his series on the legal traps of aviation.

Jay Smith, Newsletter Editor

Angle of Incidents

It's been too wet and cloudy in Oakland to fly (for me, anyway), so I decided to reread Wolfgang Langewiesche's Stick and Rudder.

Why does a wing stall? What is the proper way to turn? Why does an airplane turn?

If you're quite sure you know the answers, don't bother reading Stick and Rudder. You could read other aviation texts, however, Langewiesche's reads better. He writes of the rudder, "There is a close connection between saintliness and sin; it is always worth while to find out by actual experiment that sin does not pay, and just why not. Suppose you find out in actual flight just what happens when you attempt to turn the airplane by rudder alone."

How is your approach to landing? Are you conscious of the differing perspectives of an approach without

flaps and one with 20 degrees, or 40 degrees? What about an approach into a considerable headwind and one with little wind? Read the chapter "The Approach," learn about the visual clues an experienced pilot uses, unconsciously, to judge an approach.

Do real pilots fly taildraggers? See what Langewiesche has to say about landing gears in the chapter "The Landing."

Ernest Gann's Fate is the Hunter is my favorite work of aviation fact and speculation. Fact: Gann's life and thousands of logged hours. Speculation: that he lived to write the book. Why did a sucker hole open in the overcast skies just when a fire in Gann's DC-4 cargo hold made landing imperative? What of the piece of tape covering a fuel vent on a C-87, alone in the Atlantic night?

More incidents from Fate is the Hunter:

An unreported few hundred extra gallons of fuel in another C-87 almost made the Taj Mahal a casualty of war.

A stealthy cup of water in engine's oil tank, heated to boiling, blew off the tank's cap, and with the cap went the oil. Gann just happened to look out a passenger window while retrieving a map, and saw the gusher of oil. A few minutes delay noticing the loss of oil might have meant a prop that couldn't be feathered and a descent into the impenetrable Amazonian jungle.

Jay Smith, Newsletter Editor



N739UL in her new paint. Upper stripes are deep red, lower stripe gray. Thank you Judy Barron for the photographs.

Jay Smith, Newsletter Editor



N739UL's frontal aspect.

Now's The Time To Fly

We have four planes up and in decent shape, for the first time in over a month. Thank you for your patience! 4AC will have an oil change this week, and will be down for an annual at the end of May. Now to get the rest of them washed....

Ginny Wilken, Maintenance Director

Events, Airshows

Modesto Airshow/Airport Appreciation Day, Modesto City/County Airport (KMOD), Modesto, CA, May 13, 2006

Airshow, aircraft display, airplane and helicopter rides, rides for children, law enforcement display and demonstrations.

Contact Jerry Waymire, 209/529-8254

Hayward Proficiency Air Race, Hayward (HWD), Hayward, CA, May 18, 2006

A proficiency air race from Hayward California to Laughlin Nevada via Bakersfield California. Scoring is based on actual time and fuel against your estimate.

Contact Tony Flusche, 510-247-3225.

Planes of Fame Airshow 2006, Chino Airport, Chino (CNO), CA, May 20, 2006

For more information contact: Planes of Fame Museum, 909-597-3722, <http://www.planesoffame.org>

AOPA Pilot Town Meeting, Newport Beach/Irvine, Newport Beach/Irvine, CA, May 24, 2006

Join AOPA President Phil Boyer for this free, interac-

tive multimedia presentation. You'll hear the latest news that affects GA and what AOPA is doing to keep flying safe, fun, and affordable.

Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show, Watsonville Airport (WVI), Watsonville, CA, May 26, 2006 - May 28, 2006

The Watsonville Fly-In Air Show presents a wide assortment of aircraft, food booths, aviation merchandise, fireworks, air show performers and static displays.

For more information contact: Watsonville Fly-In & Air Show, Inc., 831-763-5600, watsonvilleflyin@hotmail.com, <http://www.watsonvilleflyin.org/index.html>

Castle Air Museum's 10th Annual Open Cockpit Day, Atwater, CA, May 28, 2006

9 a.m. - 4p.m. On the museum grounds. For museum location, go to:

<http://www.elite.net/castle-air/cammmap.htm>.

For more information contact: 209-723-2178. <http://www.elite.net/castle-air>

Hugh's Vintage Aircraft Museum Display, Hollister, CA, June 7, 2006

For more information contact: 831-636-9165

Golden West EAA Regional Fly-In, Yuba County Airport (MYV), Marysville, CA, June 9, 2006

For more information contact: 530-740-1385. <http://www.goldenwestflyin.org>

"Wings of Change" Minden Annual Open House, Minden-Tahoe Airport (MEV), Minden, NV, June 23, 2006 - June 25, 2006

Static and aerial displays; information and food booths; entertainment - fun for the whole family -no admission charge!

Contact Jim Braswell, 775-782-9871. <http://www.mindentahoeairport.com>

Rogue Valley Air Festival, Medford, OR, June 10, 2006 - June 11, 2006

<http://www.oregonairfestival.com/>

This Month's Pithy Saying

What is the cause of most aviation accidents:

Usually it is because someone does too much too soon, followed very quickly by too little too late.

— Steve Wilson, NTSB investigator, Oshkosh, WI , August, 1996.