

The Alameda Aero Club Newsletter



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April 1, 2010

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UFO's Spotted over Mt. Tamalpais

By the Associated Press

At 7:58 this morning Herman Felding spotted four unidentified flying objects hovering over the Radome on Mt. Tamalpais. Felding was on a bay tour in his 1982 Cessna Skymaster and saw the objects flying down from what seemed to be a mother ship hovering at an estimated forty or fifty thousand feet. Felding notified Norcal Approach immediately however no radar returns were noted according to the FAA technician responsible for that area.



Felding captured this picture of the UFO's on his Digital Kodak camera

As Felding continued on his bay tour he noted two F-15 Tomcats in pursuit of the objects and said the objects made evasive actions to avoid the Tomcats. According to the Felding, who is a retired Navy pilot himself, "The objects sped away at speeds many times the speed of sound leaving the Tomcats behind like Porsche vs. a Chevy Chevette." Felding noted that while four objects came down from the mother ship only three returned leaving him to believe that one has remained on the mountain. He did see a white residue next to radome before returning to Novato Gness, his home base. The weather service said this is probably snow due to the low snow levels this morning. However, noted physicist from UC Berkeley Albert Einshard said that the white residue could be something else. "White residue indicates a strong covalent bond between lithium and carbon atoms only found within a nuclear antimatter reaction which was also found in the crash site in Roswell New Mexico in another UFO incident back in the 1950's."

There is now a TFR (Temporary Flight Restriction) around Mt. Tamalpais with a ten mile radius starting from the Golden Gate Bridge to the south to the Point Reyes VOR in the west. Also the California State Parks has closed the Mt. Tam State Park for the next several days for routine maintenance according to the ranger responsible for that area.

Military humvees with Marines have been spotted heading up the Mountain from Mill Valley. According to Major John S. Patton of the 1st Regiment, Infantry division, "We are conducting routine exercises on the old Air Force Station that once existed on the top on Mt Tam during the 1950's"

and 1960's. We will be focusing on the area where there was once a pool and tennis court and doing calisthenics at the pull up bars that still exist today." Further news will be given out from the Travis Air Force Base public relations group and their advice is to stay clear of the area until further notice.

Destination: Sonoma Skypark

By Michael Hickox

Sonoma Skypark is just a bit further from Sonoma Valley, Schellville and about the same distance as the Napa airport. It has a lot to offer too. The airport is uncontrolled and has trees on both ends on the runway so it's challenging for sure.



The runway is small relative to Oakland only 2500 feet long and 40 feet wide and sits at an elevation of 20 feet. I went there last week with my co-pilot Eric Hicks. Hicks, who thought my flying was very professional most of the time, spoke with Charlie at the airport. Charlie says that there is a truck you can borrow to drive to some of the sites in the area. "Just return it with more gas than you got it and don't crash it," Charlie says. Apparently Boyle Hot Springs is only several miles away and the truck is first serve so anyone who wants to go there can find out more about that. Destination Sonoma Skypark Rules.

Historic Day: Completing my first logbook

By Michael Hickox

After 25 years, I've finally completed my first logbook. My last flight on my first logbook was with Mark Baird and was a pattern run around the Oakland airport. My first flight was in 1982 and was air work around the bay with Wally Johnson. I'm already on the third page of my new logbook so hopefully the second one won't take as long as the first.



Michael Hickox and Mark Baird after this historic flight

Winds Gusting at 39Knots

By Michael Hickox and Stan Klesman

Just another day for Stan Klesman. At 78 he's seen his share of crazy moments. More recently he was heading back from the Mt. Diablo practice area and heard that winds were gusting to 39 knots at Oakland. "I talked to Flight Service at 0900----VFR was not recommended for the day (heavies landing at SFO had just reported turbulence, thunderstorms, and hail at 4000). The weather was unsettled, but at 1300, the wind was calm with a high ceiling. So we (Liz and I) took off on Runway 15 and went to the Mt Diablo practice area for air work. On the way back, over the Dublin intersection, we ran into a small cell. It lasted for just

a few moments (and I have flown in rain before!), but I was hit in the face with ice water from the left front air vent and was too busy flying to figure out how to close it! When we were handed off to OAK, the tower advised of winds gusting to 39 knots and hail (it was very dark toward the West). We requested Runway 33, but I ran out of rudder on short final so we did a go around and landed on 27R just as the downpour hit! Whew that was fun.



Stan Klesman preflighting 9UL

New Mechanic: Mark Baird

By Katherine Holcombe

Mark got his license at age 17 and is now in his 50's (he started helping overhaul a Waco UPF7 when he was 14). He flew his C-180 33,000 air miles to every state in the contiguous US using pilotage and only a VOR in Wyoming (I was with him). He also rented C-172's out of Honolulu and flew around Oahu, Maui, Hawaii and Kauai (and through the Waimea canyon). He also flew the C-150 to MT with his bike in it for a bike ride from Missoula to Billings, plus we flew it the length of the Grand Canyon to New Orleans....he flew it home solo via MN (visiting relatives) and CO. He is an excellent "stick and rudder" pilot with whom I have trusted my life and plane A&P work since 1982. He will pass a required checkout.

FAA Seminar Today

By Michael Hickox

A new event has been scheduled that meets your notification criteria on FAASafety.gov. Following is a brief overview of the event:

"BFR Jeopardy"

Topic: Flight Review Jeopardy Part I

On Thursday, April 1, 2010 at 6:00 PM

Location:

Advantage Aviation
1903 Embarcadero Road
Palo Alto, CA 94303

Select Number:

WP1530862

Description:

Come for the fun and leave with a BFR (ground component only) during game night as we play "BFR Jeopardy". This FREE FAA Safety Team WINGS event will cover the required content per 14CFR61.56. This is part I of a two part event. Part II immediately following at 7:30pm later that night will provide the actual logbook endorsement. See the Part II event info for additional details. Part II attendees MUST also attend THIS Part I event to qualify for Part II.

To view further details and registration information for this event, [click here](#).

The sponsor for this event is: **FAA Safety Team SJC**

The following credit(s) are available for the WINGS/AMT Programs:

KEB 1.00

Membership Matters

By Will Golden

1. The owner of the Grumman American outside the clubhouse has requested we park at least five feet from his wingtip to make it easier for him to access his plane.
2. Please log off or shut down the computer in the clubhouse after use because if you don't the dial up connection keeps running and we get charged for that.

Comics



Flight Lesson #8: First Solo Flight

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Questions/Comments/Stories?

**Submit for the next newsletter at
least one week from month's end.**

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