

# The Intrepid Airmen



February 2012

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#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **February Chapter Meeting**

**February 2.** Archie Maltbie, World War II Vet, Terminal Building

#### **Chapter 62 Board Meeting**

**February 9** at 7:30 PM in the Terminal Building, all welcome.

#### February 18 Fly-Out

Columbia (022)

#### March 17 Fly-Out

South Lake Tahoe (KTVL)

#### **April Chapter Meeting**

**April 5.** Tiffany Davies, MD, AME Dr .Davies will speak to us about health, flying, and our medicals



Curtiss C-46 Watsonville, 2001

## **February Event:**

Archie Maltbie and his WWII experiences flying P-47s over Europe.

We are following up with Andy Werback's article from last month: Archie flew 98 missions for the USAAF, was forced to jump from his P-47 after it was damaged by debris from an ME-109 he shot down, and then spent 10 days hiding from German forces before being able to return to Allied lines.

Archie will be speaking to us about his experiences in 1944 and 1945.



Archie on the right in front of Andy's plane

EAA Chapter 62's February meeting will be held at the RHV Terminal Building

Everyone is welcome, and please bring friends

6:30 PM General Meeting 7:30 PM Presentation

## **President's Letter, by Konstantin Blank**

During our last general meeting, I was very proud to present and/or recognize EAA National Recognition awards to Chapter officers, board members, and advisers from 2011 who were present: Wolfgang Polak, Russ Todd, John Castner, Randy Wilde, Mark Wainwright and Don



Von Raesfeld. Brian Dal Porto, Roland LaPelle and Martin Hollman will get their awards during the next meeting or by mail. Thank you very much for your dedicated work at the Chapter!

Vice President Mark Wainwright introduced the evening's speaker—Eric Schmidt (CFI, CFII, MEII at Aerodynamic Aviation)— who gave a great presentation on biannual flight reviews. Thank you Eric for resetting our expectations as to what a proper biannual flight review should be.

Our next general meeting is on Thursday, February 2. Our guest speaker will be Archie Maltbie who will discuss his experiences as a P-47 fighter pilot in World War II.

This year we will be having lots of fly-outs. The goal is to have one per month so everyone can enjoy the camaraderie of flying to a variety of great destinations. All fly-outs assume good VFR weather. Our first fly-out is on Saturday, February 18 to Columbia, CA (O22). The following fly-out is March 17 to South Lake Tahoe. Additional fly-outs up to the month of June are published in the schedule on http://www.eaa62.org/.

July is Airventure—perhaps we can start organizing a group to go? Let me know if you are interested.

As it's always more fun with more people joining fly-outs and other activities, I encourage you to do some word-of-mouth marketing to include prospective members.

Last, we need volunteers to help with food preparation before our general meetings—please contact me and thanks in advance!

Fly safe and see you at the next meeting!

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## Santa Ynez Fly-Out by Mark Wainwright

On November 5, seven Chapter 62 members enjoyed an excellent fly-out to Santa Ynez, which is closer to Santa Barbara than anywhere else. Wolfgang and Gudrun brought Jeff West; Andy and Sam came together in their Legacy; and I flew with Steve Plyler in his Glasair.

Because of logistical requirements, the plan was for me to meet Steve at Watsonville, from where we would meet the others in Santa Ynez. When I arrived at the airport, I found Steve deep under the Glasair's open cowling. His alternator bracket had broken, and he was trying to figure out a way to effect a temporary repair. We visited the nearest Home Depot and bought some



no recent photo for me

vise grip pliers and a hack saw (since neither were on hand), hose clamps, and a piece of angle iron. It was very impressive to see that Steve had completely visualized the solution to the problem before we entered the store. After getting back to the plane it took Steve about 25 minutes to render the bent angle iron into the right shape, attach it to the existing bracket and depart for Santa Ynez.

Once there, we were met by Carl Walston and Don Noonan who brought us to Don's enormous shop behind his house. Don's wife, whom we didn't meet, must be a model of tolerance. Their house is a neat but somewhat modest ranch-style, but Don's shop is over-the-top: 6,000 square feet of airplanes,



A happy man in his shop

automobiles, tools, and a large variety of subassemblies. Unfortunately, I didn't keep careful notes, but I know there was a Gypsy Moth engine in an advanced state of assembly, a pristine 1959 Alpha Romeo Spider, and a Travel Air from the 1920s.

I slipped out of the shop a little early and visited Carl's 1940 Culver Cadet, which had recently won an award at the Copperstate Fly-In. Carl's airplane is a superlative restoration and one that he flies regularly.

After a good lunch in downtown Solvang, we made

our way back to the Santa Ynez airport and climbed into our three airplanes for the return flight. My trip back to Watsonville in Steve's Glasair took approximately an hour. In the Citabria I've been flying, I would have been lucky to make it to Frazier Lake in that time.

(cont' on next page)

## Santa Ynez fly-out, photos



close inspection shows the alternator repair



**Culver Cadet** 



1959 Alpha

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## Membership Notes by Donald Von Raesfeld, Jr.

## Membership Chairman 408-507-0951

Our first general meeting of 2012 was held on January 5 in the terminal building at Reid Hillview Airport. The evening began with a hot dog dinner served by Randy Wilde and Rusty Wells. Randy has been grilling hot dogs for our meetings since before I became a member of this chapter. He is asking for volunteers to help with the grilling. Jon Garliepp has volunteered to help out whenever he is in town. If there are any other members who would be willing to help out, let me, Randy, or Konstantin know. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Before the meeting officially got underway Past President Wolfgang Polak turned the gavel over to our new Chapter President Konstantin Blank. Shortly after that Konstantin called the

meeting to order. This being the first meeting of the new year there was not a lot of chapter business to take care of. Konstantin did however present EAA National recognitions to our chapters EAA Young Eagles coordinator Russ Todd, Past Vice President John Castner, Treasurer Randy Wilde, Newsletter

Steve Plyler and Erik

Editor Mark Wainwright, and myself (Membership Chairman). Not present at this meeting to receive their EAA National recognitions were Tech Counselors Brian Dal Porto, Roland Lapelle, and Martin Hollman. Past President Wolfgang Polak also received his EAA National recognition. However since these awards were mailed to his home from EAA National he kept his certificate and pin at home so Konstantin was unable to present these to him.

Vice President Mark Wainwright then introduced our guest speaker Erik Schmidt. Erik is a CFI, CFII, and MEI and teaches at Aerodynamic Aviation here at Reid Hillview Airport. Erik's

presentation centered around biennial flight reviews and how properly to prepare for one. He noted

that the FAA is getting more interested in making BFRs work as they were intended—as an evaluation and means of improving pilot skills, systems knowledge, and aeronautical decision making with an emphasis on safety and accident reduction. Along with a comprehensive set of handouts, Erik presented and discussed

Erik and Konstantin



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#### Membership Notes, cont'

an interesting set of ground questions to stimulate some thought. He pointed out that the BFR should be tailored to each pilot's skills, experience, and personal flying goals. Some points to consider—risk management, personal minimums, currency and proficiency. And five steps to a better BFR: preparation, ground review, flight activities, post-flight debrief, maintenance and development plan. It was a very interesting meeting and I thought it was a great topic for our first meeting of the New Year. Thank you, Erik.

#### **CAPS AND SHIRTS**

The chapter now has T-shirts and caps available at all of our general meetings for \$15 each. See me if you are interested in purchasing a shirt or cap.

#### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS**

It's that time of year again. Time to renew your membership in the chapter. Membership can be renewed online or by sending a check for \$30.00 made out to EAA Chapter 62. Checks can be sent to me or brought to the General Meeting. As of January 22, 2012 we have had 18 of our members renew. I would like to thank those 18 and I hope the rest of you will renew soon. I will be sending out renewal notices this month. Watch for them in your e-mail.

#### **NEW MEMBER**

I would like to welcome a new member to our Chapter. On January 8, 2012, Bryan Cole, joined our Chapter through online registration. I have not yet had the opportunity to meet Bryan but I hope to meet him at our February meeting. Once I get a chance to meet him I will let you all know a little about him. Welcome to EAA Chapter 62, Bryan.

#### **FLY-OUT TO COLUMBIA**

The chapter is planning a fly out to Columbia this month on February 18. Details will be available on the chapter's website.

Hope to see you at the next meeting.

Don Von Raesfeld, Jr.

Grass strip at Columbia





Archival Falco fueling - 2001 avgas is \$2.29

Our web site www.eaa62.org donated by





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Address Label is RED, time to pay your dues.



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