

IAC 38 NEWSLETTER

February 2011

Chris Combs' and Norm DeWitt's Edges on a rare blue day at KHAF



Prez Post

Considering the amazing weather in the Bay Area over the last week, it's hard to believe it's only January. While December was wet and few of us had a chance to fly, Martin and Tom were busy getting the final touches on the 2011 Paso Contest. As always, they have some great ideas on improving the contest this year for all participants. Tom will be writing a brief overview of the contest below in the newsletter.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Darren Pleasance and Howard Kirker for all the work they put into the Tracy and New J. box renewals. There's been a lot of emails going around from the



Cory Lovell
President, Ch 38

(continued from page 1)

Tracy Airport Association, and the Aerobatic Club regarding the City Council meeting last Saturday. For those of you who didn't get a chance to read Darren's email last week, please take a moment to read it below. The Community ongoing outreach, and work we've done to be "good neighbors" has gone a long way. As we continue to work towards the box renewals, it's important to NOT use the Tracy or New J. aerobatic boxes until the renewals are complete. Use the Diablo Practice area, or head over to Four Corners to get your aerobatic fix!

DUES: I want to remind everyone that the club moved to a calendar year for Chapter dues, so pretty much everyone in the Chapter needs to pay their annual \$25 dues. These dues are an important part of summer BBQ's at the critique sessions, as well as a successful Paso contest. Please Remember that you can renew online via PayPal or with a Credit Card in less than 2 minutes: <http://www.iac38.org/pmts/payment.html>

Lastly, make sure you reach out and tell Dave Williams "Thank You" for stepping up and taking charge of the Newsletter. Hopefully some

of you can contribute articles each month to help Dave put together for future newsletters. If you have any ideas for the Chapter or building membership, feel free to email me: cory@sukhoiaerobatics.com
-Cory

Darren's letter

Guys,

Per my email earlier this week, there's a meeting tomorrow at the Tracy Airport that's being hosted by the FAA to listen to concerns about aerobatics, and aircraft noise more broadly.

The purpose of the meeting is for the FAA and City leaders to listen to local neighbors, and to convey the "facts" about what is happening at the airport. We've provided them with a summary set of facts that they can use related to our activities at Tracy in this past year, as well as over the past ~15 years. As such, I feel they're well prepared to conduct the dialog in an informed way.

I'm not sure if any of you are planning to attend tomorrow, but we've agreed with the FAA that we should not attend in any formal role and this will not be a forum for "both sides to present their cases". This isn't a decision meeting, and creating a hostile environment with each side defending their point of view isn't going to help. Instead, we're better off letting the meeting happen, let people voice their concerns, if individuals want to voice their support that's fine, but please don't take on the argumentative side where we pull out all the reasons why the

residents who complain about noise are wrong. It won't be productive in this forum,

We'll have our opportunity to present our case, and the City and the FAA already know that we've been very open to finding ways to continue to operate at Tracy while being respectful of the neighbors and the regulations. We'll continue to maintain this posture. Experience around the country has shown over and over that a "take or leave it" approach to responding to community concerns only results in each side getting more entrenched, and very slow progress on our ultimate objective of preserving the rights to fly, practice aerobatics, and do this in a safe and sensible way.

If anyone attends tomorrow's meeting, would be great to hear how the dialog went, and if the forum is such that there's an opportunity to voice support for our activities, that's great, but frankly I think we're better off having that voice come from local neighbors than from members of our Chapter since we're obviously biased in the eyes of those concerned about our flying.

Thanks, guys.



The Half Moon Bay Contingent

Dave Williams, Editor

Since this is my first attempt at putting together a newsletter for Chapter 38 I have no member-generated content to start with. I hope there are some of you who would be interested in contributing articles and photos. You will all get pretty tired of seeing pictures and articles about planes and people at KHAF unless someone submits some content about other people, planes and places. My email is d.andk.williams@sbcglobal.net

The Half Moon Bay contingent of chapter 38 consists of JB Cockrell, his son Bob, Brian Branscomb, and myself. Chris Combs's Edge 540T was based here until recently when he moved to San Carlos but he still does most of his flying with us on the coast. JB, Brian and I all live within minutes of the airport, and Bob visits home frequently from his home base of Atlanta. I have owned my Yak 52 for 10 or so years. A couple of years ago JB mentioned he was thinking of buying an airplane and I mentioned to him that a Yak 55 was the perfect machine... cheap, pretty much bullet-proof and if I could fly it he and Bob could fly my 52 when 2 seats were needed for rides or training. Amazingly enough he thought that sounded like a good plan and in a very short time the 55 was delivered from its previous home in San Antonio. After a little while he decided airplane ownership was so much fun that he purchased a beautiful Yak 18T. JB had flown a J3 back in the days when the earth was

still cooling but Bob had only flown conventional gear. I had the plane to myself while Brian got them their tailwheel endorsements. Brian and I flew the Sportsman sequence at Paso Robles in the 52 in 2009 and last year he and I flew Sportsman in the 55. JB and Bob flew Primary at Paso Robles and Delano and finished second and third at Delano while Brian and I hung out in mid-pack in Sportsman. All of us improved our results from the first contest and are planning on going to as many contests as we can this year. Chris's airplane was in maintenance for Paso Robles last year and he had committed to taking the family to Watsonville the weekend of the Delano Contest but this year he is ready to rock. The current plan is that JB will fly Primary, Bob Sportsman, and Brian, Chris and I will fly Intermediate. I'm cautiously enthusiastic about the challenge of flying the Known, Free and Unknown this year.





The airship approaches KHAF after practicing bag-overs and graveyard hisses.
(send your photos and articles or things might get weird)

Your Chapter Needs You

Tom Myers, IAC38 Director Emeritus

IAC38 is in need of a few good volunteers. Here is the status. Dave Williams is our new newsletter editor. Thank you and welcome Dave! Martin Price continues as our Paso CD. Howard Kirker continues as our Treasurer. Darren Pleasance continues as our FAA Liaison and Practice Box Waivers Manager. Cory Lovell would like to step down as president. I am willing to fill this role and assure that all of the administrative and legal

chapter obligations are being met. Where my time would be very limited would be in setting up and holding regular chapter meetings at LVK. If there is anyone who would like to be president, or would like to manage the chapter meetings, I would be happy to hand that person the reins (or control stick/yoke as the case may be). Otherwise, we are likely to be limited to one pre-paso chapter meeting to go over the contest and recruit volunteers. Brett Goldsmith

is our webmaster, but has very limited time availability. We would like to find someone who would like to put some time and energy into the IAC38.org web site. We need a volunteer for Vice President. We need a volunteer for Secretary. Mike Egan has volunteered to be one of the chapter officers. Please let me know if you are interested or have questions.

Thank you.

tom.myers@stanfordalumni.org 650 328 2141

What Mistakes Will You Make During a Bailout?

You've just experienced a life threatening catastrophic problem to your aircraft requiring you to make a split second decision. Will YOU make the right decision and be a survivor or will you become a statistic? Find out what critical steps you must take in the proper order to ensure a successful bailout. Read the many articles now available to you at www.SilverParachutes.com

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It's That Time of Year Again

We accept solid gold bars as payment for chapter dues, but since the shipping and insurance on these is prohibitive, and they seriously affect weight and balance, we have arranged for some more convenient payment methods.

Go to www.iac38.org, click on the About IAC38 menu item on the left hand side of the main page. Click on the **Join IAC38!** link that

appears below the About IAC38 menu item.

You will be taken to the IAC Chapter 38 Membership Benefits page. At the bottom of the page is a signup & pay online with PayPal link.

Click on the signup & pay link.

An IAC 38 Application Form window will open. Fill out the required fields (marked with an *), and click on the Submit button. You will be

taken to the Paypal website to complete your payment.

Alternatively, you can mail a check made out to IAC Chapter 38 to:

**Howard Kirker, Treasurer
2279 Ocaso Camino
Fremont, CA 94539**

Thank you very much,
Tom.



There was a small brush fire just west of the airport at Half Moon Bay last fall. Two S2 tankers and a Bronco spotter plane made the day interesting.

First Chapter Meeting of 2011

We're planning on holding the first chapter meeting of 2011 next Sunday, February 13th, at Attitude Aviation (KLVK). We'll run the meeting from 3pm to 4pm so anybody that wants to take advantage of the beautiful "winter" weather (assuming it lasts that long) can fly home before sunset.

This will be the kick-off for 2011 so there's plenty to cover.

- Paso Robles contest update (and request for volunteers)
- Tracy box update
- Membership: Howard will be on-hand to willingly accept your 2011 dues
- Chapter Officials: We have a number of open positions to fill right now
- Plan for 2011, including suggestions for meeting topics and chapter events

I hope a good number of you can make it and I look forward to catching up with you next weekend.

-Martin

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Time To Start Thinking About Paso

Martin Price, Paso CD

It's the middle of winter (or, at least, what passes for winter here in California), a lot of airplanes are down for annual and a few more are just starting to feel their way through the 2011 Knowns. However, your intrepid chapter officials are already starting to think about the Paso Robles contest.

This year it's the weekend of June 10th-11th. Mark your calendars but, more importantly, think about what you can do to help out. We need people to help us start laying the groundwork right now - a sponsorship coordinator, for a start, and we'd love somebody to design an

awesome contest T-shirt - but we'll also need a lot of help the week of the contest itself. Box setup starts Wednesday June 8th (pro tip: the people who lay out the box on the Wednesday are first to fly in it on the Thursday), we need help with practice box management and registration, and we need an army of officials and eager volunteers to pull off the smooth execution of one of the largest regional contests in the US.

I know I've already spoken to some of you since last year's Paso contest, and rest assured I remember you and will be coming to

you directly, but if you're interested in helping out and getting to see how a contest is run I'd love to hear from you.

martin@pull.gs or (510) 579-3407, or just find me on Facebook.

Since we're talking about contests already, I'm delighted (and impressed) to announce that the Southern California folks have managed to add another contest to the California calendar: The Inland Empire Strikes Back, March 18th-19th, in Redlands, CA is a Primary and Sportsman contest. It'll be a great warm-up for 2011 if you can make it down there.

