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# THE TACRONAUT

Volume 8 - Number 11



## IAC 38 Members meet Tracy Girl Scout Troop 594

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### Clichés

Aviate, Navigate, Communicate.

Rule one: No matter what else happens, fly the airplane.

Fly it until the last piece stops moving.

It's better to be down here wishing you were up there, than up there wishing you were down here.

An airplane will probably fly a little bit overgross but it sure won't fly without fuel.

### Article or Pictures?

Send them in!

[editor@iac38.org](mailto:editor@iac38.org)

Share your aviation experiences with the rest of the club.

## President's Post

Darren Pleasance



Gobble, Gobble...

Wow, what a busy Fall this has been. In the last 10 days I've traveled over 35,000 miles and been in multiple cities in the U.S., in several countries in Europe, and spent a few days in Korea. It's always eye opening when I do these trips who much less aviation I see in every other country I land in. Asia's the worst, but even Europe has so few little planes flying around compared to what we have here in the U.S. Seeing this always helps to remind me what a great privilege we have to be able to fly the way we do here in the U.S..

I'm now on my way to Oshkosh this week to attend our year-end IAC Board meeting, as well as the EAA All-Board meeting, including the Hall of Fame dinner. I went to this two years ago and found it to be really fun to reconnect with so many high-profile members of the aerobatic community, as well as connect with Tom Poberezny and the EAA leadership. This year, we'll be continuing to work through an overall transformation of EAA including helping to redefine the working model between the EAA and the Divisions as well as helping to clarify and improve the services and overall benefits provided to the members of EAA and IAC (as well as Warbirds, Home Built, ...). This should be another fun few days.

On the flying front, my Laser is back in the air again with a nice new, smoked canopy and it flies as well as it ever did. The pilot's a bit rusty but the plane seems to be right back to where it was just a few short months ago. Howard and I are just now starting to wring it out in anticipation of next year's contest season. Many thanks to Bernie Vasquez for doing a fantastic job of getting the plane back up and flying.

I've also now been spoiled with regard to airshows. I took my son, Chris, down to the Salinas Airshow several weeks ago and was pleasantly surprised when I found out that Bernie Vasquez had managed to secure us two tickets into the Presidents Club, which was essentially a front row, box seat, all you can eat and drink experience for watching all the performers including Sean Tucker, Bill Stein, Eddie Andrenie, Blue Angles, and the



The Collaborators: Photo work done by Eric Chasanoff

Snowbirds. It was the most comfortable, fun way to watch an airshow I've ever experienced and has certainly set the bar. The following week, I took my kids to my office in San Francisco, where we have the 48th floor of the BofA building. While one misses out a bit on the noise of the Fleetweek airshow, we had a great view of everything, including lots of pictures of the Blue Angles zipping by BELOW the window with great views directly into the cockpit. Quite a cool view, including a great view of our own Ben Frelove and his terrific formation routine with Sean and Eric Tucker, and Bill

Stein. A great show for sure.

On the Chapter front, several important things in the works:

- 1) Don Gutridge orchestrated a Girl Scout day in Tracy this last weekend. I'm sure Don will write more about this separately, but I wanted to acknowledge Don's leadership in this terrific event, plus thank all of the pilots who came out to support this event. We should do these things more often so many thanks to Don for making this happen.
- 2) Tracy Box renewal. Believe it or not, our Tracy Waiver expires again in about 60 days. I'm starting to pull together the renewal application now, including a summary of our activities over the past two years. I don't anticipate any problems, but given the history around this, one never knows.
- 3) Chapter elections are also upon us. Once again, we need to elect 4 Officers and 3 Directors. I'll be sending out a separate email in advance of our Chapter meeting on Sunday, November 11th with the list



Jacquie Warda speaking to Tracy Girl Scout Troup 594

of candidates. If anyone would like to nominate themselves for a position on the Board, please let me know. I'm willing to run for President again, but am also always open to someone else who would like to take this on so please let me know if you'd like to run for this position. I'll be reaching out to individuals to find candidates for VP, Secretary, and Treasurer, as well as for the 3 Board positions so please let me know if you'd like to contribute to the Chapter this year by taking on a leadership position.



Torque Roll—by Eric Chasanoff

- 4) Holiday Party. It's almost that time of the year. I'd like to get the group's input on the timing of our Holiday party this year so we can pick a date that works for the majority of people. We'll use our Chapter meeting this next weekend to lock on a date so people can plan for it.

All-in-all, a lot of good things going on. I hope you're all able to make our Chapter meeting this

coming **Sunday, November 11th at 4:00 p.m. at Attitude Aviation**. I'll send out a reminder email several days before, along with the election roster and the program we'll have for the meeting.

Blue skies,

- Darren

## FROM THE EDITOR

*Special thanks to Don Gutridge for the excellent article to follow and pictures. Thanks also to Mike Eggen and Yuichi Takagi for sending in some pictures of Borrego.*

-Che Barnes

## Tracy Girl Scouts Meet IAC 38 Pilots

*Donald Gutridge*

It sounded like they could be heard shouting, jumping and cheering all the way across the other side of runway 30 at Tracy Airport.



**Andrew Connelly on the left and Jessica Panzer on the right**

It was unlikely that any of the Girl Scouts of Tracy Troop 594, part of the Girl Scouts Heart of Central California, would have dreamt when they woke up Saturday morning, November 3rd that before the day would end they'd be sitting in an airplane then cheering for their new female pilot friends flying an aerobatic sequence of maneuvers in the box overhead, but that's just what they did.

Five volunteer members of IAC38 came out to Tracy Airport to support the Girl Scouts working to earn their aerospace badge. The girls had already made paper airplanes, performed presentations on famous women in NASA and piloting and built model rockets to be launched later, but they needed to actually talk with some real women pilots.

Each of our IAC members Jessica Panzer, Peter Ballard, Marylin Dash, Andrew Connelly, and Jacquie B Warda shared a different perspective and a common message: Follow your dream, whatever it is, get and stay committed, persist through the barriers, don't do drugs or drink and you will succeed. You will live your dream.

Jessica Panzer, shared her experience as a corporate pilot flying twin engine turbo jet aircraft cross country, and a tiny Pitts Special aerobatic biplane gave the girls a feel for what it's like to be raised in an aviation family, start flying at 18 years old and have a full fledge piloting career in progress at a very early age. Jessica's love of flying advanced competition aerobatics stems from the fact that her airplane teaches her something new every time she goes up as compared with long stretches of nothing to do flying the corporate planes.

Peter Ballard, not a pilot, shared some additional perspective on other aspects of aviation as a maintenance technician and college student acquainting the girls with many other avenues of pursuit beyond the pilot's seat.

The character of the airplanes came to life when Marylin Dash told the girls about her family sedan type airplane, a Piper Cherokee she calls Daisy, plus her Pitts Special named Ruby (Flowers and Jewelry) which she has raced in national competition at the Reno Air Races for a number of years



**Addressing the Troop**

with a second place as her best finish. She talked about flying for the challenge and continuously reaching higher to keep learning.

Andrew Connelly spoke of the high cost of flying in his native England (we think gas and flying is

*(Continued on page 5)*

high here) which made it near impossible for him to pursue until arriving in America, and how important flying is to him because it is something he has always wanted to do. Some call that the delayed gratification principle. As we all know Andrew flies his Pitts S2S model (pictured next to group) purely for fun in competition, but when the girls asked him, "what is the most enjoyable part of flying," he described the beauty and the magic of just



**So what is it like to sit in a Pitts anyway?**

flying along at altitude looking down at the magnificent landscape moving under his wings.

The last presenter was our friend and well known air show pilot, and current President of the South West Airshow Network, Jacquie B Warda, who also flies a Pitts Special, and was loaded with technical information about the airplanes and aerodynamics packaged in youth friendly language. Posters, pictures and patches were passed out for all to take home.

When asked if they knew that airplanes could fly up-side-down the response was, "We thought they made planes look like they did that with special effects." It was soon discovered that not one of the girls had ever been to an air-show and only one had ever been up in an airplane. All of us as aviators need to remember this, so we remember to pass on the love and the legacy of flight.

After nearly an hour and a half of listening to the

pilots stories and drilling the pilots with what seemed like an unending and enthusiastic barrage of questions the girls moved outside to get a close look at the airplanes and learn about how they fly.

The girls were all very excited. So excited that Lauren, Abby, Amber, Paulina, Alyssa, Allison, Miranda, Lauren, and Nadia, all took turns wearing Jacquie's flight helmet and climbing into the tiny

Pitts cockpit to try it on. (photo) Some will need to grow a few inches to reach the rudder control pedals, but all were thrilled to get the feel of the airplane.

The girls got a very special treat when Jessica and Jacquie put on an aerobatic flight demonstration in the Tracy Aerobatic box. If you've ever been to Friday night football at Tracy High School and heard the cheerleaders rooting for the home team you'll know how the girls reacted to the flights. I wished the pilots could have heard them jumping up and down with excitement and cheering as they rooted for their new pilot friends rolling, and looping and tumbling through the air finishing with a friendly wing wag to salute the Girl Scouts on the ground.

Each of the presenters emphasized that dreams can come true when you are committed to doing the work. Persistence, study and health were emphasized as key ingredients for success. The girls learned about practical applications of math and science the pilot must apply to be safe in the air. Also emphasized was the reality that to fly you must be healthy and fit which means, no drugs, no alcohol, and healthy habits such as exercise and good nutrition.

Troop leader Anna De La Cruz and proud parent Russell Jessen declared the event a success. I gave out Young Eagles fliers and told the kids that next year brings even more fun as IAC 38 sponsors an EAA Young Eagles program in spring or summer 2008 in which free plane rides (straight and level) are offered to youngsters between ages 8 and 17. You're invited to join the fun.

- Don

## Borrego Pictures

*Sent in by Mike Eggen and Yuichi Takagi*



**Intermediate 1st and 2nd Place  
Go Howard!**



**Advanced Winners**



## IAC Chapter 38 Membership Application/Renewal Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail 1: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail 2: \_\_\_\_\_

IAC #: \_\_\_\_\_

EAA #: \_\_\_\_\_

Certificate #: \_\_\_\_\_

EAA Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge:  Regional  NationalCompetition:  None  Basic  Sportsman  Intermediate  Advanced  Unlimited

Aircraft: \_\_\_\_\_

N #: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred By: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues:  Single Membership (\$25/year)  Family Membership (\$30/year)

Send with check, made payable to "International Aerobatic Club Chapter 38", to:  
**Howard Kirker, IAC38 Treasurer - 2279 Ocaso Camino - Fremont, CA 94539**

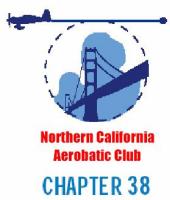
### Next Meeting

Sunday, November 11th, 2007

4 PM

Attitude Aviation

Livermore Airport, CA.



**Che Barnes**  
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