

# San

July 2006

The Monthly Newsletter of  
The San Juan Pilots Assn  
P.O. Box 874  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

[www.sanjuanpilots.com](http://www.sanjuanpilots.com)

## Events –

Seminar - July 25, 6-9 pm Airspace Refresher,  
**Jonathan Taylor**, Fire Station on Mullis.

Monthly Luncheon – July 28, 1 pm Golf Course.

Board Mtg – Aug 1 at 5:15pm FHR Unicom  
Building.

# Juan

## Member Profile



For 14 years, the man who has kept Friday Harbor flying – **Sid Smith**,  
San Juan Air Maintenance.

# Pilots



*...So, when you see mighty aircraft  
As they mark their way  
through the air,*

*The grease-stained man with the  
wrench in his hand*

*Is the man who put them there.*

Author unknown, and borrowed from last  
month's AOPA Magazine.

Who is this mild-mannered master of the cylinder? Sid runs a high-pressure operation, which isn't always measured in psi over 80. If you have ever run into the Island Air hangar, with something that just fell out of your cowling, and is still smoking ... you will remember being greeted by the world's nicest guy, who has more balls in the air than Ringling Brothers.

**Sid Smith – Cont'd**

Sid grew up on a farm in Montana. After high school, he attended, graduated from, and did post-graduate work, at the University of Arizona in Tucson. With a passion for horses, he was planning to become a veterinarian.

With the military draft hanging over Sid's head (his number was 26), he avoided Army duty by enlisting in the Marine Corps, where he ended up as an Air Intercept Control Officer.

After his discharge from the Marines, he moved to Brewster, WA, to stay with his brother, while establishing residency to go to the Vet school at Wash State University.

His brother, a pilot, had several airplanes contracted to the Forest Service. After he taught Sid to fly, the Vet school plan was dropped, in favor of Spartan School of Aeronautics in Tulsa.

Once in aviation, Sid's resume read like a travel brochure.

- Mung Northern Airlines, Nome, Alaska 1977-81. *At the next SJPA event, ask him to relate a few stories.*
- Harbor Airlines 1981-87
- Mozambique 1987-89 with Air Serve International, who fly personnel and relief supplies
- Farming with his brother 1989-90
- Angola 1990-91 with Air Serve
- His own shop at Skagit airport 1991-92
- In the summer of 1992, Bill Sargeson, at Island Air (Jackie Hamilton's dad), called Sid to see if he'd be interested in moving to Friday Harbor.

Last year, in addition to doing all the service work for Island Air, Sid did 35 annuals, and countless small repairs for resident and transient pilots.

At this writing, the Port of Friday Harbor is considering his application to build a new 100 by 100 foot maintenance hangar, just South of Island Air. Currently only one non-Island Air aircraft can fit in the hangar at a time. The new hangar would allow for up to eight aircraft and two more techs.

On the personal side, Sid lives in Roche Harbor Skyways, where he hangars his 1973 Cessna 150, grows vegetables, and does a little wood work, as spare time allows. He has been a member of the San Juan Pilots Assn since 1994, and served as its president in 1997-98.

**Sid's Top-3 Easy maintenance Items for owners.**

1. Tire pressure. Low tire pressure not only damages tires, but wheels and struts, as well. Ask Sid to describe the slow-motion video, showing flexing wheels.
2. Wipe Oleo Struts. The grime works its way into the seals causing premature replacement.
3. Keep your airplane clean. The best way to detect problems is to inspect while washing and cleaning.

## Dodie's Hangar Party - 2006

June 24, 2006 – More than 100 aviators spend the afternoon flying Dodie's Hangar.



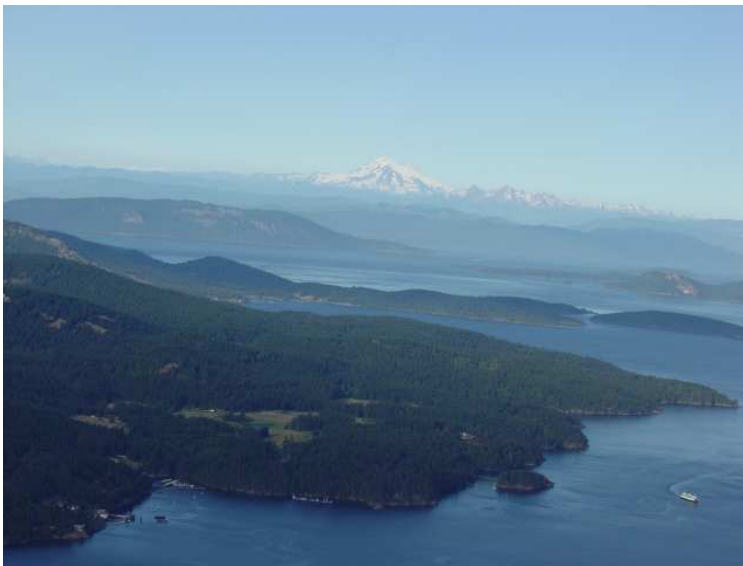
Thanks to Dodie Gann, for building the hangar, and letting us spill mustard on the floor, and to everyone who pitched in to make it a great event. There's no better venue for watching airplanes, telling airplane stories, and meeting airplane people.

## New Member

**Ron Collins** – Ron became a private pilot in April, but that's just a part of the story. Retired 10 years ago, from the Hong Kong office of a major law firm, Ron and his wife Anne sailed their boat from Los Angeles to Friday Harbor, and bought a house.

He learned to fly from his brother in Florida, and soloed there. In 2004, Ron bought a 1967 Cessna 172, and flew it to Palm Springs, near their winter home in Indian Wells. Since the purchase, the 172 has gotten a new prop, in front of a new 180 hp engine, new glass, interior, and paint. The panel got a Garmin 430, and traffic info, as well as an Apollo II and three nav/coms.

Last year, they sold the house and now live aboard a 57 Nordic.



*Here's this month's aerial photo quiz. Based on the landmarks, where am I?*

## New CTAF for Skagit Regional Airport

**Art Miller** and **Pat Mayo** have each received information about a new frequency for KBVS.

Effective 12:01 AM, August 3, 2006, Skagit Regional Airport will start operating the CTAF/UNICOM on the new frequency **123.075** MHZ" *Source: Port of Skagit County Memorandum dated May 26, 2006 - advised to check NOTAMs in effect at the airport*

Another Skagit reminder – To those of us looking for the \$100 omelet, Crosswinds Restaurant doesn't open until 11am. It's open Tues-Sunday.

## Events



*The flight-line at Arlington July, 2006*

**July 21-23 - Concrete** Old Fashioned Fly-In.

**July 22,23 - Camas,** Camas Day's Steak Dinner and Pancake Breakfast.

**July 25 – Friday Harbor,** Airspace Seminar, 6-9pm, Fire Station on Mullis.

**July 28,29 – Baker, OR,** Wings Over Baker Air Show [www.wingsoverbaker.com](http://www.wingsoverbaker.com)



**July 29 - Forks,** 16th Annual Fly-In, salmon bake, car show.

**Aug 27 – Snohomish,** Harvey Field Cornroast. [www.harveyfield.com/cornroast/cornroast.htm](http://www.harveyfield.com/cornroast/cornroast.htm)

**Sept 2 - Prosser,** EAA Chapter 391 23d Annual Prosser Labor Day Fly-In.

**Undated – Potential future fly-outs:**

Flying Heritage Collection in Arlington. [www.flyingheritage.com/](http://www.flyingheritage.com/)

Future Of Flight, Aviation Center and Boeing Tour at Paine Field. [www.futureofflight.org/](http://www.futureofflight.org/)

Port Townsend Aero Museum. [www.ptaeromuseum.com/](http://www.ptaeromuseum.com/)

Boeing Field Museum of Flight. [www.museumofflight.org](http://www.museumofflight.org)

Parking adjacent to Museum, \$14 per person

Boeing Plant and Museum Paine Field

Parking at Fliteline, Transportation available 425-464-1476

\$15 per person, Reservations needed, Snack bar

One hour guided tour of the plant to see the 777 construction.

One hour self guided tour display of the future 787.

## Legal-ease

**John Geyman** passes on this final edition of PROPOSED FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS, with tongue in cheek.

1000.D – The Administrator may, at his or her option, require the offending pilot, or pilots, to attend remedial instruction in Federal Aviation Regulations until such time that the pilot is too confused to be capable of understanding anything.

Fuel Update – The latest local pump prices as of 7.6.06

Friday Harbor	4.33	Bellingham – Air BP (SS)	4.09
Orcas	4.32	Blaine	3.96
Anacortes	3.96	Paine – Fliteline (SS)	4.22
Skagit	4.77	Lynden	4.05
<b>Oak Harbor</b>	<b>3.75</b>	Arlington – Fliteline (SS)	4.18

Note: Chehalis (KCLS) is \$4.03, self-serve, and won't take a debit card, credit card only.

**Flying with Carlo and Frank**

**Frank Brame** relates a good airplane story. **Carlo Fransiosi** (left seat) shows Frank (right seat) the push-to-talk button on the right yoke. Frank just sort of assumes that he's in charge of the radio, then. A short time later, while on downwind at Friday Harbor, Frank hears a report of a plane on downwind. Turning his head in all directions, and seeing none, Frank keys the radio and says, "Aircraft on downwind at Friday Harbor, I can't see you, what 's your present position?"

The reply comes from the left seat. Carlo says, "I'm right here, Frank. I made that report."

**News to You, From 118.2**

In case you missed it in the media, **Roz Morrison** forwards this release:

NAVAL AIR STATION WHIDBEY ISLAND: Routine repairs to remove rubber and repair concrete on the two runways at Ault Field will begin today and continue into early August.

While Runway **7/25 is under repair, July 10-24**, planes can only take off and land heading either North or South. This means planes are more likely to use a landing approach and traffic patterns that brings aircraft over northern Island County, Fidalgo Island/Anacortes or northern Camano Island and eastern Oak Harbor.

When runway **13/31 is closed for repairs, July 24-Aug. 4**, planes can only take off and land heading either East or West. This means that landing approaches, departures and traffic patterns will be over the western Skagit County/Mount Vernon/La Conner area or northern Island County and Lopez Island more often than normal.

Use of the Outlying Field at Coupeville may increase during this period to accommodate field carrier landing practice.

Under single runway operating conditions, the air station is limited to the choice of only two directions for take-off and landing rather than the usual four. That choice is based on the prevailing wind direction at the time.

## Angel Flight Spotlight

In May Angel Flight West started flying Brad O. from his home in Blaine, to Seattle for treatment of esophagus cancer. Most of these missions are being flown by Angel Flight West Command Pilot **Bob Brunkow** who has two planes based at Blaine and is able to fly both legs taking Brad to and from his treatment. When they arrive at Boeing Field Bob parks his plane at Galvin Flying and uses one of Galvin's courtesy cars to take Brad to his radiation appointment. An hour or so later the two are back at Galvin for the flight home to Blaine.

Brad said that because of the air transportation Angel Flight and Brunkow are able to provide, he doesn't have to endure a long car trip or worry that traffic may cause him to miss an appointment.

These missions to fly Brad to Seattle are just some of the AFW missions being flown from Blaine Municipal Airport in 2006. Others include missions flying blood to Seattle and Renton for processing at Puget Sound Blood Center's lab.



*Brad O. and AFW Command Pilot Bob Brunkow, beside Bob's Bonanza at Galvin Flying on Boeing Field (BFI).*

(Photo and article by Christian Holtz.)

**San Juan Pilots Association board** President - John Volk, Vice President - John Geyman, Secretary - Bob Tauscher. Jonathan Taylor, Richard Babbit, Tom Eades, Fred Schumacher, Pat Mayo, and Arthur Miller.