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November 2008

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

www.sanjuanpilots.com

Mark Your Calendar

Monthly Luncheon – Friday Nov 28, (Yes, the day after Thanksgiving) 1:00, Golf Course.

Board Meeting – Tuesday, December 2, 5:15, Whidbey Island Bank Conference Room.

Christmas Party – Saturday, December 6, San Juan Island Yacht Club (See below)

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*San Juan Pilots
Christmas Party*

Saturday, December 6

San Juan Island Yacht Club. Cocktails at 5, dinner at 6. You should have already received your invitation form, by regular mail. Be sure to fill it out, write a check and mail it in. Note that this year's event is BYOB, and that reservations/checks must be received by December 1, and are non-refundable.

This year's guest is **Mike Lavelle**, Director of Development for the Museum of Flight, at BFI.



Mike is an aviation historian who is an Associate Fellow in the American Institute of Aeronautics and a Fellow Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain. Mike has over 46 years of aviation/aerospace industry experience.

Eleven of those years were with the Cessna Aircraft Company of Wichita Kansas and 24 with The Boeing Company in Seattle. Mike's assignments were primarily in aircraft flight and maintenance operations for both commercial and military programs. Mike, while living in Wichita, was an adjunct associate professor at Wichita

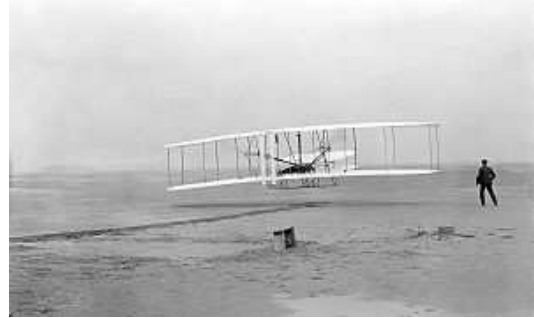
State University where he taught in their Aviation Management Program.

A flight instructor with over 7000 hours in a variety of aircraft, as well as, a certified FAA Airframe & Powerplant Mechanic, Mike has made many of his informative and entertaining aviation history presentations to university programs, industry groups, AIAA Sections and conferences, branches of the Royal Aeronautical Society and air museums including the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, UK. He has been a guest on several radio programs, including NPR Science Friday. His area of historical interest has been topics of the early days of aeronautics into the jet age. Since 2006 he has been a Director with the Museum of Flight in Seattle.

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Christmas Party (Cont'd)

Mike will share with us his special presentation on The Wright Brothers and Powered Flight, discussing their personalities, their problem solving approach and the early flying machines the brothers used to successfully achieve heavier than air controlled powered flight between 1903 and 1905.



Here are a couple of pictures from last year's Christmas Party.



Federal Aviation
Administration

FAA Seminar at Westwind

Tuesday, December 2, FAA Seminar, “**The Chartmaker and the Pilot**”, 6:30 at Westwind Aviation. The objective of this seminar is to provide an overview and review of the basic uses of the various VFR charts and publication products. Aeronautical charts and publications contain a wealth of information. Don't miss this rare opportunity to interact with the "Chart Professor", Mr. Richard Neher. The sponsor for this event is: **FAA Safety Team & National Aeronautical Charting Office**

Here is a registration link.

https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_publicregistration.aspx?eid=22113

or, for more information, contact Dan DeShon at Westwind, 378-6991.

Welcome New Members

Chris Teren - I moved to the islands full time in 1995 after spending every summer on Stuart Island since 1976.

After 10 years on the island, I found my old log-book from a high school program which I could not complete due to time constraints, but realized I had almost 40 hours in a C172. I talked to Dan at WestWind, enrolled in ground-school (a lot had changed since flying out of COS in 1987!) and then got to flying the C150.

After a summer of hard work, I passed my check-ride in 3DJ on the day before my birthday, and got checked out in my Cherokee 180 on my birthday! What a wonderful couple of days! Now I have a little over 100 hours in the Cherokee, and am looking forward to many more hours! You may know me - I am also known as TechieChris the computer guy! I look forward to meeting all the San Juan Pilots and spending much more time in the air! Cheers, and safe flying!



Classifieds

Robert and Patricia Benton have a half hangar/"storage" unit (K6A) for sale at \$40,000. If interested call 378-6360

Bob, shown at right, in this year's Friday Harbor 4th of July parade. Expert photography by Tom Schramm.



HOMELAND INSECURITY

A PIREP from Greg Gerhardstein

Right when you think you're on short-final to the Burlington Costco, things may get interesting. **Greg and Jane** Gerhardstein had a surprise that can be a lesson for us all.

Greg wrote to SJPA President, **Tom Schramm**, *"My wife and I flew to BVS yesterday and found ourselves immediately approached by two Homeland Security "Air Interdiction Agents". These guys came toting guns and demanding seeing your pilot's license, medical, airworthiness certificate and registration, along with giving you the third degree about whose plane you're flying and why you're flying. They were nice enough about asking for all of this but it is a very intimidating experience.'*

'They told me they are watching aircraft coming in from the "West". '

'Anyway, I'm glad I had all my necessary paper work or this could have been a huge problem. You may want to inform our membership to double check to make sure they have theirs as well. At least if they're planning on flying around "East" of here these days.'

Thanks,

Greg Gerhardstein

SJPA President, Tom Schramm, a CFI, wants to remind us that

Federal Aviation Regulations require that we have certain documents in the airplane at all times:

- The Aircraft's Airworthiness Certificate "displayed...so that it is legible to passengers and crew." (FAR 91.203)
- The Aircraft Registration (FAR 91.203)
- The Airplane Flight Manual, usually a Pilot's Operating Handbook (FAR 91.9)

And, of course, you must have your Pilots License and a current Medical Certificate on you when you are flying any airplane.



Three of the San Juan Pilots Assn board members attended the AOPA Expo 2008 in San Jose, earlier this month. **Bob Brunkow, Bob Miller**, and your humble scribe, spent a few days eyeballing the latest aircraft, and must-have gear. If you missed it, there's a good pictorial wrap-up at <http://www.aopa.org/expo/news/video.html>.

In the static display of aircraft at the San Jose Airport, the offerings ranged from a good selection of light sport aircraft, to Cessna's new Mustang light jet. Even with the tough economic climate, AOPA reported more than 9,000 members registered.

My favorite find of the show, was this throttle (right) from an AirCam aircraft (shown below). Yes, it's a twin pusher.



We were impressed by the practical sessions on First Aid and Ditching, although it's tough to think about a time when we could end our flight as a hiker, camper or swimmer.

Doug Ritter does a great seminar. His web site www.equipped.org is a good resource for gear and advice. We were glad to hear that the latest statistics show that more than 90% of pilots and passengers survive ditching incidents.

Once in the water, we of the Great White North, have a lower fear of shark attacks than our Florida brethren, but the 50 degree water is another issue. Ideally, each of us should be wearing floatation devices, with laser flares, and Personal Locator Beacons (See SJPA September Newsletter). And, if possible, be able to deploy an inflatable raft.

But, beyond equipment, both seminar instructors emphasized the importance of First Aid training and a strong will to survive.

182 Stolen from Orcas Hangar

As you have likely heard, a 1999 Cessna 182 was taken from a locked hangar at KORS and flown over the Cascades, where it was put down in the sage brush near Satus Peak.

San Juan County Sheriff Bill Cumming told us the hangar door lock was picked, and the plane "hot-wired".

According to the Yakima Herald Newspaper, "The plane's registered owner told investigators he thought the plane was still in its hangar when they called to find out why it was on the reservation, said Ralph Sampson Jr., chairman of the tribal council."

It is not known why the plane went down. Sheriff Cumming pointed out that there was still fuel on board.

While an unconfirmed fact, this may be the only airplane ever stolen in San Juan County.

Meanwhile, for those of us who don't lock our hangars, and leave the ignition keys on the top of the panel, so we don't lose them, might want to think about adding an extra level of security.



Remember, your airplane is like your spouse. It takes them a long time for them to train us, and it's inconvenient to start over.

Pictures our members wish we hadn't found



It's 1:35. Do you know the whereabouts of your favorite radio personality? This was taken long ago and far away, of SJPA board member and Friday Harbor Asst Fire Chief, **Tom Eades**.

Tom was the morning disk jockey at KONP in Port Angeles.

Be careful next time to call 911. The person who might be taking care of you is a former (gulp) radio personality.

Fuel Update – The latest local pump prices as of November

Friday Harbor	5.00	Orcas	6.40
Anacortes	5.75	Skagit – Viajet	4.75
Bellingham – Texaco Self Serve	5.25	Port Angeles	6.11
Boeing- Aeroflight – Full Service!	4.79	Arlington – Castle & Cook	5.10
Everett – Castle & Cook	5.15	Port Townsend	5.30



Next Month – The changing of the guard at Friday Harbor Airport. We salute Pat Mayo’s many years managing KFHR, and welcome new airport manager Dave Ryan.

Meanwhile – If your industry is in tough financial times, get into astronomy. It’s looking up.



San Juan Pilots Association 2008 board : President – Tom Schramm, Vice President –Bob Brunkow, Secretary –Tom Eades, Treasurer – Dan DeShon, Jonathan Taylor, Fred Schumacher, Bob Miller, Mike Taylor, Stuart Hansen.