

# The WingNut

EAA Chapter One Flabob Airport (RIR) Riverside, CA



Volume 58, Issue 1

**We make flying FUN!**

January 2011

## New year, new era for Ch. 1

EAA Chapter One enters the new the future. The Chapter's Board of of President Jerry Cortez, recently 58-year-old chapter in a brain-were on the table. Board members existing and proposed programs, the future that would involve the

“One of the problems,” Jerry more like a business, rather than a to have fun.” There was widespread evolved into a business-like organi-joy and exuberance it once had as a nuts.” We followed the normal

placed the freedom and enthusiasm with rules and regulations, crossing the T's and dotting the I's. Our purpose became the perpetuation of the organization...not the perpetuation of the enthusiasm which caused the formation of the organization.

“Our Christmas Dinner this year showed us the need to get back to basics,” Jerry said. In the past number of years, Chapter One has had a rather formal, catered Christmas Dinner. This year, due to budget constraints, we decided to have an old-fashioned “pot luck” affair, complete with low-cost games and entertainment. The dinner was a resounding success, and those who attended had a ball. The Chapter provided ham and turkey...cooked at home by Chapter leaders...and the rest of the food was provided by those who attended. It cost much less than past Christmas Dinners, and was just as much...or more...fun. Which led Jerry to conclude, “We gotta get back to grass roots.”

Board members agreed that we need to include flying activities for those members who have airplane access. Things that were discussed were: poker runs, fly-outs, spot-landing contests, flour bombing contests, and camp-outs. Many of these events could involve non-flying members as well. So look for some of these exciting flying events in the future.

Jan Buttermore suggested that we “hook up kids with builders,” in a type of mentor-ship program. Members who are constructing a home-built aircraft could take a young person who has an interest in aviation and let them help. The builder would get free labor, and the youth would get free instruction...a win-win situation for all involved.

The Board decided that our Independence Day celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup> would once again become a Chapter-sponsored event. For the past few years, the Chapter has not had an officially sponsored event on the Fourth of July. It has been an informal gathering of members and locals who come to watch the “burning of the mountain.” This year, there will be a Chapter Meeting, a gathering, a “bring-your-own-whatever” BBQ, pot-luck, and hopefully Wes Blasjo will once again churn his home-made ice cream.

The Chapter One Open House has had a long tradition as one of the premier fly-ins in Southern California. The past five or more years have been, however, an acute disappointment in terms of human traffic and money raised. The Open House has been our major fund-raiser of the year. For the past four years, it has netted us (-\$96.93) in 2010, (-\$270.86) in 2009, (-\$468.70) in 2008, and a total of (-\$2,328.70) in 2007. That's right...we lost money each and every year. The Open House cost us more to put on than we raised. Not a great fund-raiser!

*(Continued on Page 6)*



year of 2011 with an eye toward Directors, under the leadership met to plan the future of our storming session where all ideas discussed the pros and cons of and tried to decide on a path for most chapter members.

Cortez said, “is that we got to be bunch of guys getting together agreement that Chapter One has zation that no longer carries the gathering of a bunch of “flying course of organizations, and re-

placed the freedom and enthusiasm with rules and regulations, crossing the T's and dotting the I's. Our purpose became the perpetuation of the organization...not the perpetuation of the enthusiasm which caused the formation of the organization.

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### **Plane of the Month:**

# Calendar



### January 2011

**7th – First Friday Flicks**  
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.  
**8th – Young Eagles**  
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.  
**8th – Chapter Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.  
**8th – Board Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.  
**15th – Design Group Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.

### February 2011

**4th – First Friday Flicks**  
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.  
**12th – Young Eagles**  
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.  
**12th – Chapter Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.  
**12th – Board Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.  
**19th – Design Group Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.

### March 2011

**7th – First Friday Flicks**  
Chapter One Hangar - 5 p.m.  
**8th – Young Eagles**  
Chapter One Hangar - 8 a.m.  
**8th – Chapter Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 1 p.m.  
**8th – Board Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 3 p.m.  
**19th – Design Group Meeting**  
Chapter One Hangar - 9 a.m.  
**26th – Riverside Air Show**  
Riverside Airport - all day

# Inland Empire Aviation Roundtable to be formed at March Field Museum

The March Field Air Museum, near Riverside, CA, announced the formation of a new discussion group, to be called The Inland Empire Aviation Roundtable (IEAR), and dedicated to the local aviation and aerospace community. IEAR will hold monthly meetings where subjects of interest to the air-minded public will be presented. We will encourage lively informal discussion of these presentations, and of other timely subjects raised by the attendees. Subject matter will include aviation and aerospace history, civil and military, as well as new developments in these fields.

The Kick-off Meeting will be held at the March Field Air Museum, January 25, 2011, at 7 p.m. Admission and parking are free. The subject of the presentation will be Flying Cars.

The speaker is Dr. Branko Sarh, a Senior Scientist at the Boeing Long Beach Plant. Dr. Sarh was formerly employed at Airbus Industries and MBB in Hamburg, Germany, where he developed the automated manufacturing process for the Airbus 330 composite vertical fin. He has conducted independent research at MIT, and at Rohr Corporation in Riverside, where he was project engineer on a USAF Research Program in Robotic Assembly of Aircraft Components.

Aviation history has seen a number of attempts at roadable airplanes, with varying degrees of success. Dr. Sarh will review these past projects and he will present his own concept for a new transportation system incorporating an innovative flying car design.

The March Field Air Museum is located adjacent to March Air Reserve Base, at 22550 Van Buren Blvd., near intersection of Van Buren Blvd. and the 215 Freeway.

Mailing address:

The March Field Air Museum

P.O. Box 6463

March ARB, CA 92518

Telephone: (951) 902-5949

e-mail address: [info@marchfield.org](mailto:info@marchfield.org)

web site: [www.marchfield.org](http://www.marchfield.org)

Contacts: Oscar Weingart [weingart1@earthlink.net](mailto:weingart1@earthlink.net) Ken Wright [kbwright102@verizon.net](mailto:kbwright102@verizon.net)

## Join us for first Friday Night Flicks

2011 is the Centennial of Naval Aviation, and in honor of all our Nasal Radiator friends we will start the new year right with *Navy Born* (1936), starring William Gargan and Claire Dodd. The newborn son of a naval aviator is tragically orphaned while only a month old, but the dying dad makes his shipmates promise to take over the raising of the baby in the navy way. This is complicated by the wily aunt of the baby who schemes to take the baby and raise him as a sea-hating landlubber. While giving flying lessons to the scheming aunt in a swell looking Monocoupe, the baby's godfather (William Gargan) falls in love with the aunt, and almost has the job in the bag when a gangster kidnaps the kid under the mistaken impression that he is the father. Well, sir, the Navy won't stand for that and PDQ the whole squadron has taken off from the Saratoga to force down the crook and hey, nobody said that plots had to make any sense in 1936. Some great aerial shots, some cheesy special effects, and a stirring human drama with lots of navy jokes, how can you go wrong? The Adventures of "Sky King" start the evening.



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# Vetetan's Day At Flabob

Photos by  
Erik Lindholm





# From the Editor's Desk

## On a Happy New Year!

EAA Chapter One is not your ordinary EAA chapter.

It's the mother of all EAA chapters, a chapter conceived in the mind of Ray Stits which grew and flourished over the years, having its good times and its bad times, its triumphs and defeats. Members have come and have departed, many times over, and still the Chapter goes on.

It was, when it was formed, a builders' chapter. It then became a social chapter. It evolved. America changed. Aviation changed. And Chapter One changed. And now the leaders of Chapter One are trying to figure out what the chapter has evolved into.

It's clearly not a builders' chapter. The majority of our members have no desire or inclination to spend hundreds of hours constructing a flying machine. The majority of our members who fly take to the air in an airplane constructed by other people.

Chapter One is no longer a social chapter; we do very little together as a chapter other than meetings at which we have a meal, a speaker, a raffle, and off to home.

So where do we fit? Who are we? We're joined by a love of aviation and a commitment to the continuation of EAA Chapter One. In many ways, we've become a "Young Eagles" chapter, where our Young Eagles program attracts many more participants than our Chapter Meetings. We've tried combining the two, by moving our Chapter Meetings to Young Eagles Saturday, hoping to attract the Young Eagles crowd into our luncheon and Chapter Meetings. Success has been mixed.

Chapter One leaders are working overtime to attract and stabilize attendance at Chapter Meetings. What will inspire you to come to the Chapter Meeting on a Saturday afternoon? Would it be an entertaining speaker? A hands-on session on building the perfect rib? A relaxing hangar-flying session? A travelogue? Inspiring stories presented by Young Eagles?

We know that a delicious luncheon attracts a bunch of hungry members. And we know that an interesting speaker will rouse you off your couches. But is that what we've evolved into? A chapter that provides good entertainment and good eats? Are you interested in hearing about the recent flying adventures of another chapter member? Would you show up to hear a member talk about his/her difficulties in constructing their project aircraft?

What about the commitment to Chapter One? That is, the commitment to the other members of Chapter One. What about the camaraderie, the *esprit de corps*, the fellowship of a group of people who truly love and care for general aviation and the people involved in it?

I believe that Chapter One is, at its core, a social chapter...a place where a widely divergent group of people who share a love of aviation come together to celebrate that common interest. At Chapter One, whether you're young or old, liberal or conservative, good-looking or ugly, fat or thin, rich or poor, whether you like the music of Frank Sinatra or Lady Gaga, it doesn't matter. If you love general aviation, you're in.

For 2011, resolve to set aside a few hours each month, on the second Saturday of each month, to attend the Chapter One Membership Meetings. Set aside all those other tasks that beckon you and travel to Flabob Airport, to the Chapter One Hangar, and join us as we celebrate the joy of flight! Come early and watch the Young Eagles get their wings. Join us at noon for fellowship and a delicious luncheon. Be there at 1:00 p.m. for the Chapter Meeting. Stay afterward, if you wish, for the Board of Directors meeting.

It's a new year, 2011, and the Chapter One Board would like to make this the best year in our chapter's history. To do so, we need your cooperation. President Jerry Cortez and the Board members are working long and hard to make this a great year. They can't do it without your help.

Resolve to help the Chapter One Board fulfill its goal of making 2011 a prosperous year at Chapter One. Be there! Give us a couple hours the second Saturday of each month, and we'll make your year 2011 a happier and more rewarding year. We guarantee it!

LG

# Aerocrafters going great guns

By Jon Goldenbaum

Mark Lightsey's Aerocraftsman restoration shop ([www.aerocraftsman.com](http://www.aerocraftsman.com)) at Flabob is going great guns, with no less than three biplanes nearing completion at once. In 2010, Mark has had a great year building airplanes, culminating in flying the Caudron C-460 Thompson Trophy racer to Oshkosh where among other trophies it won the "trampled grass award" in front of the Vintage Red Barn, followed by flying his Hatz biplane to the AAA fly-in at Blakesburg where it won the "Best Hatz" award.

Project One is Jerry Barto's Cabin Waco YKS-7 which is undergoing a complete ground up restoration.



Aerocraftsmen at work restoring classic aircraft.

Wacos are notorious for being built one at a time, and this one is no exception. Bill Hill and Tony Furukawa have pieced together spectacular new woodwork; the results are so pretty they are a shame to cover. The Cabin Waco is scheduled to make Oshkosh this year; should be a real show stopper.

Project Two is Richard Zeiler's Travel Air D-4D. This beauty sports a spectacular paint job laid out and painted by Flabob fabric and paint artisan Nando Mendoza. Named the "Sky Siren," this will soon be one of the most unusual and beautiful antiques flying.

Project Three is Ron Alexander's YMF-5. This "new" Waco was number three off the Waco Classic assembly line in Battle Creek, Michigan. Built in 1986 this Waco has been giving

rides from New Hampshire to Hawaii, and now serves as Ron's primary ride aircraft at Peach State Airdrome in Williamson, GA. With the help of Hualdo and Nando Mendoza, David Browning, and Don Newman, Mark hopes to have the Waco recovered and painted in time for *Sun 'n Fun* this year.

## 2011—Chapter One enters new era

(Continued from Page 1)

In 2011, Chapter One will combine its Open House with the annual Flabob Veterans Day Celebration. Jerry Cortez has worked out an agreement with The Wathen Foundation whereby the Chapter One Hangar will be available to Chapter One throughout the day, enabling us to hold our fly-in, our forums, our sales booths, etc. This will provide the foot traffic we need to attract foot traffic which will entice vendors of all sorts, while enabling us to provide outstanding forums throughout the day.

The Board also decided that the Chapter One Gala Banquet doesn't need to be held on the day of the Open House. The featured banquet will be held on a Saturday night, as usual, but it will be held on a Saturday night which is convenient for the featured speaker.

So, as we begin a new decade at Chapter One, we invite you to jump on board. There will be lots of fellowship, lots of fun. We hope to see you here!

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# EAA Chapter One Open House

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*EAA Chapter One*

# *Join us for our Chapter Meeting!*

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*January 8th, 2011  
at noon*

Join us at the Chapter One Hangar for an  
day of fellowship & fun!!

***SEE YOU THERE!***

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