

SONOMA SKYPARK NEWS

JANUARY 2014

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!! It was a beautiful day to start the new flying year. I flew over the hill to Petaluma for the PAPA chili lunch and to be entertained watching one of the largest reciprocating round aircraft engines run statically. A number of Skypark pilots visited Sonoma Valley Airport for its free New Year bar-b-que.

SKYPARK CHRISTMAS PARTY - Friday night December 6th was a cold and rainy night but it didn't deter one hundred twenty Skypark folks from enjoying good friends and excellent food. **Kathy Carmichael & Marilyn Avrit** directed twenty four of us Thursday night in decorating hangar A-3 and setting up the tables & chairs etc. The table decorations, lights, Christmas tree and music really made the hangar a festive place. Friday evening we enjoyed **Rafe Tomsett & Randy Reyes** pouring skills accompanied by numerous appetizers, all the while we were entertained by a talented young accordionist. The party attendees were very generous bringing lots of gifts for the Toys-for-Tots program. The large box of gifts was delivered to the Shellvista Fire Station Sunday afternoon **Gardiner Bride** called everyone to dinner with his trumpet at 7:15 pm. The Skypark Air Explorer Post members acted as the servers for the hot food items doing a very nice job. The turkey and ham were excellent accompanied by a wide variety of hot dishes and plentiful salads. The desert tables were awesome.

Curtis Presten debuted his standup comic act ably assisted by his straight man brother, **Ben Presten**. The Presten team presided over a revised White Elephant gift exchange to everyone's pleasure. The hot item seemed to be a large framed picture!!!

I want to thank everyone who pitched in to plan our party, set it up on Thursday evening, serve and organize the wonderful food Friday night and finally those that came out Saturday morning to clean the hangar and return the tables and chairs.

A sad note: A longtime fixture at Skypark, **Ken Thompson** passed away in Fallon, NV on December 4, 2013. Ken was reported to be battling cancer recently. Ken had been a Navy pilot and came to Skypark in the late eighties to repair John Thomason's Cessna 210. Soon after that he set up shop here and was responsible for many repairs and most of all for extensive total rebuilds of Grumman SeaBee's. About ten years ago he moved to Fallon, NV and into a new large hangar to exclusively restore and repair SeaBee's. RIP Ken.

Airport Calendar

- January 11, 12** **Display days for Historical Aircraft. From 12 pm to 4 pm**
- January 12** **The first Young Eagle event of the New Year. It starts at 9 am and continues to noon. Come to the airport to fly youth, age 8 to 17, help with registration or just talk with parents & enjoy the coffee.**
- January 14** **7 pm. EAA Chapter 1268's monthly dinner meeting in the Skypark clubhouse. Everyone is invited, dinner and drinks for \$6.00.**
- January 24** **Movie night. Movie and popcorn at 6 pm, pizza, drinks and the feature film at 7 pm for five bucks. This month's film is a new release titled, "Air Racers". See you there.**

Tailwinds, Ron Price

SONOMA SKYPARK, INC.

21870 EIGHT STREET EAST

SONOMA, CA 95476