

# SONOMA SKYPARK NEWS

## JULY 2015

**SKYPARK FAMILY FUN DAY-** The weather was perfect for our open house. **Yayoi West** did a marvelous job getting a lot of volunteers lined up for the event. **Jeanette Woods** met with Yayoi many times supplying her with previous plans and forms. Almost 400 people registered with our greeters and the cooks served slightly over 300 hamburgers and hot dogs. Attendance was down slightly from previous years and can be explained by several free family events happening over the same weekend in the valley. Even with less attendance we can all feel much rewarded for our efforts. The Silent Auction, Raffle Sales and Parachute Bingo raised enough for \$1,300.00 donations to the **Sonoma Valley Mentoring Alliance** and **Air Explorer Post 1268**. I personally want to say thank you to the donors, solicitors, food preparers, cooks, greeters, set up and take down helpers the hay wagon drivers, airplane and automobile parkers, announcer **Darrell Jones** and auto parking lot attendant **John Miles**. Take the rest of the summer off !!!!

**Airport Happenings-** On June 7<sup>th</sup> we made the airport available for **Lorraine Wedekin's 94<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration**. Lorraine and her daughters Janet and Joann hosted 110 guests to a wonderful birthday event. Lots of Sonoma old timers got to visit Skypark for the first time. Lorraine arrived early and was amongst the last to leave. She sets a wonderful example for all of us on how to lead a full life with friends.

**Blaine Transue and his wife** took off in their Cessna 182 for the Grand Canyon, Oak Creek Canyon and Phoenix. **John Carmichael and Kathy** are spending the summer on a lake just North of Whitefish, Montana. John is busy giving float plane instruction for sea plane ratings. If you want to cool off you can get a new rating that counts for a bi-annual and enjoy some spectacular scenery too while visiting them. Next week **John Thomason, Calvin Wojciechowski, Ron Willis, Paul Seibert and I** will leave for EAA AirVenture at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. We will meet up with **Frank Russo** and former Skypark owner **Jim Roberts** for our annual camp

out week among airplanes. **Peter Gauthier and Kit** are trailering his nearly complete **Replica 1945 Pitts Special (Little Stinker)** to EAA AirVenture for the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Curtiss Pitts' little aerobatic airplane. Peter has been collecting parts for this plane for many years but it was only about 6 months ago that he started in earnest on this project. He and **Didier Makowski** have been burning the midnight oil doing a super craftsmanship job to finish it for the trip to Oshkosh. EAA's International Aerobatic Club is building a special display for this aircraft. I just heard that **Eric and Ben Presten** are driving to EAA AirVenture this Wednesday the 8<sup>th</sup> and will meet the rest of us next week. Sonoma Skypark will be well represented.

**Good bye to an airport friend.** Sunday morning, July 5<sup>th</sup>, Debbie Dodd Norman (formerly Presten) departed Skypark in her Aeronca Champ accompanied by Travis Morton. Debbie has settled in the Fort Worth, TX area with her new husband Terry Norman. Sunday night they were in Banning, CA and we just heard that they are in Deming, NM tonight, so they are making good progress. Just half of Texas to go tomorrow! Skypark will miss Debbie's willingness to pitch in, her wonderful deserts and cheerful disposition. *TRAILWARDS, Ken Beer*

July 11 <sup>th</sup> & 12 <sup>th</sup> .-	Display Days for old aircraft. Noon to Four PM
July 12 <sup>th</sup> .	Young Eagle flights. Nine to Noon.
July 14 <sup>th</sup> .	EAA Chapter 1268 Dinner meeting. Seven PM
July 20 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> .	EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

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