

## **7-1-15 Volume 2, Issue 2**

# Redlands Airport Association Newsletter

**Chapter of California Pilots Association** 

#### The Mission of the RAA

- To advocate for all users or REI.
- To promote, support, and encourage the continued use of REI
- To communicate the airport's importance to the community.
- To educate airport users of relevant regulatory and legislative airport/aviation matters
- To provide a forum whereby those concerned about REI issues can voice their concerns
- To advise the appropriate authorities regarding safety, security, and other concerns at the airport.
- To support government authorities in carrying out their duties regarding aviation and the utilization of REI in disasters, and public service events.

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## **Presidents Letter**

#### **By RAA President Ted Gablin**

Wow, it's been a whole year since 24 people met on 6-21-14 for the first meeting of the RAA. It's been a lot of work for some of us. We made some friends and made some others unhappy. Was it worth it? **You bet it is!** 

As a retiree, I am learning that as you get older it becomes important to give back to the community. Working to improve the viability of a public facility, REI, that affords me and others enjoyment and a livelihood associated with aviation is a very productive use of one's time. My fellow RAA leaders also have this same burning passion for aviation and are convicted in the same manner. It shows too.

Some of the things that I have heard this year that have made this crazy adventure of an airport advocacy group far more palatable included comments like "We should have created an airport advocacy group like the RAA sooner, and "it's a great idea". A Redlands Councilman shared that we have put airport issues front and center with City Council.

Airfest 2015 is behind us. The way this event was mishandled in the past is one of the reasons why the RAA organized. But, it was a different event this year. It was a far better than in years past. It also got 10-15,000 people to the airport. Not all of them came for the beer either. Even though not all airport users were happy, most admit it was a better event for the airport and the community at large.

Have there been disappointments with the RAA? Yes. It's really hard to get people involved at the airport. Case in point, a very short 10 question survey was sent out to 140 folks on the RAA e-mail distribution list about Airfest 2015. We only received 13 responses. With all the complaints that we have listened to about this event it's a bit disappointing that people didn't take advantage of this opportunity to share their opinions and perceptions about the event with the City and the promoter. Perhaps the lack of response will be viewed by those in charge that everyone was happy?

I can tell you with certainty; we can only be successful as an advocacy group if people go the next step beyond complaining. Please get involved.

I think the RAA has done quite a bit our first year and the following article in this newsletter highlights our accomplishments and future challenges.

## <u>Our First Year in Review... RAA</u> <u>Accomplishments and Future Challenges</u>

The events that spawned the creation of our association were powerful motivators for our airport community. Think about what has transpired over the last few years that has affected our airport.

- Rialto airport closed as a result of a city indifferent to their community airport and the lure of developer moneys.
   Contractors constructing a huge State of California water construction
- Contractors constructing a huge State of California water construction project (CA Dept. of Water Resources) dug a huge reservoir, made a deal with a property owner and piled the spoils just off the approach to the end of Runway 26. We all know this created a serious hazard for users of REI. This was done in spite of project oversight from the FAA, Cal Trans Dept. of Aeronautics, County of San Bernardino and the City of Redlands.
- A young entrepreneur runs out of space for his popular brewery business anniversary party and decides to hold future events at the airport under the guise of an airshow as it coincides with the aviation theme of his product. The first three years this event was conducted it was executed with little input or consideration of the REI airport community.
- A recession and cash strapped City of Redlands inadvertently neglected our airport for years. This led to a climate of indifference to the promotion of airport business and development, a forgotten airport master plan and a rundown public airport lobby that is not welcoming to visitors that want to make Redlands a destination. All this while airport grant money applications have been, until recently, forgotten.
- Housing has been allowed to encroach in the airport area.
- Airport user indifference and apathy.

Well, many of us that have been associated with General Aviation know that these symptoms all point to an unhealthy municipal airport. The mission statement of the RAA embodies our desire to turn this all around....

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Charter RAA Members 6-21-14

# <u>Our First Our First Year in Review...</u> <u>RAA Accomplishments and Future Challenges</u>

#### So what have we accomplished as an airport community with your help this year?

- The obstacle off the end of Runway 26 has been reduced in height. It's not gone yet, but it's better than it was before. We are going to keep at it too!
- This year's Airfest event was executed with significant input from the airport community. Officials at the city of Redlands allowed airport users to work with the promoter to address the ills associated with the previous event. A few brave folks at EAA Chapter 845 worked with Airfest 2015 promoters to improve the event. Their hard work made this event more family friendly and helped to bring a different crowd to the airport. All of this paid great dividends as this was a better event than in years past for both airport users and the promoter.
- An airport improvement project using AIP funds is underway. The REI lighting and signage project will bring some much needed improvements to REI and obligates Redlands to continue operating the airport.
- The Redlands City Council is listening to airport patrons more than in years past. We are seeing their involvement in airport issues with more frequency and conviction.
- The City of Redlands Airport Advisory Board has become energized. They are listening to the airport community and their counsel and recommendations to City officials appears to have more attention.
- The RAA organized legally. We have incorporated and are in the process of securing a tax exempt status. We have joined the California Pilots Association as a chapter as this will afford us strength in numbers and resources. Our involvement with Cal Pilots will surely aid the RAA's advocacy efforts.
  - All of this is good stuff, but we have a long way to go.

#### Here are some things we want to work on to make REI more viable and healthy.

- Work with City officials on attracting and improving the business climate for new and existing aviation businesses at REI. Perhaps another AAB ad hoc committee, similar to the Redlands Airshow Committee, could be developed to work on this issue.
- Create a volunteer group of airport emergency first responders. This group of volunteers will
  work collaboratively with the Redlands Fire Dept. and respond to airport emergencies while
  awaiting the arrival of trained responders. This will make REI a safer place and get users involved
  in improving airport safety.
- Develop a website for the RAA. We need this one real bad. Hopefully with some help and financial support we will get one before the end of the year.
- Continue to promote events that get the community to the airport such as; "Young Eagles", pancake breakfasts, airport open house events and charitable events such as "Stuff a Plane with Toys for Tots". All of these type events demonstrate the value of REI to the community and help get people involved in aviation. They are a get airport users involved in the airport.

# <u>Our First Our First Year in Review...</u> **RAA Accomplishments and Future Challenges**

#### Here's what it will take to make it happen.

These are all great projects for our airport community to pursue, but they cannot be realized without the support and participation of airport users. The Redlands Airport Association is an "association of airport users". The successes we have seen to date have been the result of a few folks that have worked real hard to make REI a better place. Your assistance is needed to continue the effort. As we have said before... ... It's your airport - qet involved!



## **Cal Pilots Chapter Update**

The RAA has completed all filings with the State of California required to secure our tax exempt status. Our chapter application and dues to the California Pilots Association have been processed and approved. The Redlands Airport association is now a chapter of the California Pilots Association. As a chapter we are able to secure Federal Tax Exempt status and leverage the tremendous resources of the Cal Pilots organization. It is a true partnership that we welcome. If you are interested in learning about their activities or supporting Cal Pilots through membership or donation, please go to their website at: <a href="http://calpilots.org/">http://calpilots.org/</a>

## Helicopter Training @ Aero Tech Academy Flight School By RAA Safety Officer Dennis Brown

If you haven't noticed there been a considerable increase in helicopter training being conducted at the Aero Tech Training Academy. We are glad to see their business thriving. This activity contributes significantly to the airport economy (more fuel purchases, service work, instructor pay etc...) and the local economy. Bravo!

With the increased training activity of foreign students at Aero Tech Academy, I recently set up a meeting for those who had issues and or complaints regarding the increased helicopter activity. The meeting was held at Aero Tech Academy and I was the only person that showed up. I took questions from many people that said they could not attend and asked a few of my own. The following is a summation of this meeting in question and answer format:



## **Helicopter Training @ Aero Tech Academy Flight School**

- Q. I see the helicopters landing next to the fuel pumps. Is this safe?
- A. Only the instructors and fully certificated pilots are authorized to land adjacent to the fuel pumps. This is within regulations. Students must land at the east parking area, attach wheels to the skids and push the helicopters to the fuel pumps.
- Q. I see the helicopters hovering for extended periods of time at the east parking area?
- A. Once airborne, they move to the taxiway and look for traffic, both vehicular and fixed wing, and if any conflicts arise, the students are instructed to yield right of way.
- Q. I see the helicopters using the taxiway to train. It blows dirt into my hangar.
- A. The students must transport the helicopters from the east parking area to the west ramp. They are to move cautiously to the practice area and are instructed to yield to fixed wing aircraft and vehicular traffic. The taxiway is the only pathway they can legally take. The dirt on the taxiway could be swept by the city as it is their airport to maintain.
- Q. There is concern about noise and neighbors starting to complain.
- A. Aero Tech Academy has changed the helicopter pattern in conjunction with the FAA and City of Redlands to appease noise complaints and the current track seems to be working well. The training is done in compliance with the training manual submitted to the FAA.
- Q. Why doesn't the school launch and fuel the helicopters from the west ramp?
- A. The range of the helicopter is about 1.75 hours and the aircraft must be refueled to accommodate the next student. There are no trucks or mobile facilities for fueling.
- Q. There was hovering close to the Coyote Hangars recently.
- A. The students are instructed to stay on the west end of the parking area. The helicopter in question was an R-44 from a flight school off field. It is important to note time and N number.
- Q. Concerns over the English that students are using during their training.
- A. There is a basic English training module in the Aero Tech Academy training syllabus. The quality of annunciation varies from student to student, but phraseology and orientation must be correct before solo flight.

It is important to note that the number of students has increased and with the additional numbers comes additional congestion. If the students were in fixed wing airplanes, the result would be the same or worse. Try to put yourself in the seat of the student. Many are learning the key phrases of aviation for the first time. Think if you were in a foreign country trying to perform the same training and learn enough of the language not to be a hindrance. It might be a very hard task. These students are young men and women, learning a skill that would cost on the order of 10 times as much to do in their country. They are on visas and have only so long to complete this training. They are studying the FARs, and all the disciplines necessary to become pilots. Try to accommodate their effort and give them a little slack, it takes very little.

If there are further questions, Mr. Nobu Ezuka, owner of Aero Tech Academy, can be contacted at 909-794-4046.

### **Stuff a Plane with Toys for Tots**

#### **By Cindy Gablin**



For more than 60 years the Marines Toys for Tots Foundation has delivered joy, hope and educational development - in the form of toys, books, games and sports equipment – to children in need.

This year, Redlands Airport Association has decided to host a local event to benefit the Marines Toys for Tots Foundation for our area which is supported by the 29 Palms Marine Base. Our event will be called "Stuff a Plane with Toys for Tots". We will collect toys from October 24<sup>th</sup> thru early December.

The kick-off for this event is to be at the Redlands Municipal Airport on October 24<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm. The 29 Palms Marine Base will be sending two Marines to accompany our event. I stuck my neck out and told them we expected to collect at least 100 toys. We may even have Santa fly in to collect the toys from the kids. I have requested permission to fly approximately 12 planes to the 29 Palms Marine Base in December to deliver the toys. The Staff Sargent is putting the request through and will let me know as the pilots and planes will need to be cleared to land there.

I have presented the idea to our EAA Chapter 845 and Arnold Beler volunteered to help me in support of the event. Another volunteer is from the Redlands Flying Club, Joel Rothschild.

We will place an article in the paper and invite the press to the event. We would love to make this a community event and get people to come see what a viable airport we are and donate to a worthy cause. It could be an Airport Open House for the community to come visit with the tenants, owners, and businesses - see what we are all about and donate toys.

Many ideas have been presented to add to the event; maybe a pancake breakfast, a BBQ lunch, an aviation swap meet. The EAA Chapter 845 mentioned having a fly-in where they invite other EAA chapters to come donate a toy and have a hot dog. Some car and motorcycle clubs showed interest in coming to display their vehicles and support the toy drive.

All this takes volunteers to organize and manage the different events. You can help make our campaign a success. Please let me know if you are interested in organizing any of these events or one that is not mentioned as we will need to make arrangements for space and approvals. Just send a note to the RAA might be interested in organizing on October 24<sup>th</sup>. October is just around the corner, so we need to plan now.

Please join us in making this a memorable and charitable event.

## **Redlands Flying Club Celebrates 10 Years at REI**

An informal celebration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Redlands Flying Club (RFC) was held at their regular meeting at REI on June 16, 2015. An ice cream cake along with cards signed by various people from the airport community and flowers were all part of the ceremony that marked the event and served to thank founding members Bryan Wernick, Peter Rohl, Joe Holland and Rick Sterling. The RFC also acknowledged the efforts of instructors Steve Willer and Denny Brown, as well as all standing members, and past members that have contributed to make the RFC viable for 10 years.

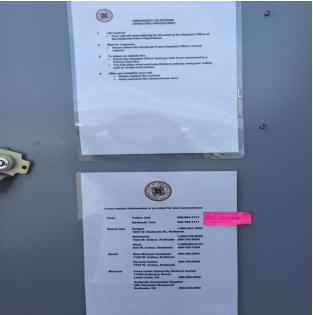


Flying clubs have been around for years. Some were founded well before World War II. They have introduced thousands of people to flying by offering affordable alternatives to individual aircraft ownership. Some clubs like the RFC can provide access to quality instruction and an entry point to aviation. All this can be had with the comradery and fun that goes along with belonging to a club. Additional information about the RFC and membership can be found on their website at: http://www.redlandsflyingclub.org/

## **You Have Got To Be Kidding Me!!!!**

Need a taxi, rental car, motel or medical attention when you fly Into REI? Well here's where someone thinks pilots should look to find those phone numbers. This emergency phone is on the east side of the public lobby. The phone numbers are on the inside of the cabinet door.





We look forward to working with the City of Redlands City on using some other ways more commonly used by other municipal airports to list these services such as; Airnav, AOPA airport info, or the City website. Local businesses used by the flying public using REI would also benefit from these **simple no cost advertisements** on these sites and make REI a more inviting place for visitors flying into to the "Jewel of the Inland Empire".

### RAA Classified Ads & Advertising

If you are an individual and you have an aviation item or service for sale or you wish to advertise your aviation related business we will be glad to publish it in our next newsletter. We publish quarterly, so next newsletter will be out 10-1. Ads are published at no cost to RAA members current on membership dues. Please get your ad to us by 9-1-15.

# Here's an example of why we need to protect GA Airports like REI *Public Safety*



US Forest Service Aerial Fire Fighting Staging Area at Redlands Municipal Airport on 6/21/15

Let's All Fly Safe Out There!

#### **Redlands Airport Association**

## **Upcoming Events**

1745 Sessums Suite 1 Redlands, CA 92374 July 1, 2015 Special AAB Meeting —Airfest Debrief
October 24, 2015 stuff a Plane with Toys For Tots Drive Kickoff and ????
December ? 2015, REI Toys For Tots Gift Delivery to 29 Palms

#### E-MAIL:

#### Redlands.Airport.Association@gmail.com

Ted Gablin President

Steve Willer Vice-President

Eric Wroolie Treasurer

Cindy Gablin Secretary

Dennis Brown Safety Officer

## **Important Meetings**

**The Redlands Airport Association** meets monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the public lobby at REI

**Redlands City Council** meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. Agendas are posted 72 hours in advance for City Council meetings and Planning Commission meetings. Link for agendas and videos of previous meetings: <a href="http://70.40.217.219/councilvideo">http://70.40.217.219/councilvideo</a>

**Redlands Airport Advisory Board** meets at 5pm on the 1st Wednesday of every even-numbered month at the Redlands City Council Chambers.

# It's Your Airport Get Involved !!!!!

### **About Our Organization...**

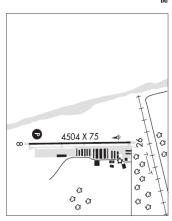
"The purpose of the RAA shall be to deal with current and future issues of interest to the pilot and aviation community at the Redlands Municipal Airport."

Airport Facilities Directory Entry - Not For Navigation!!!!!!



REDLANDS MUNI (REI)(KREI) 2 NE UTC-8(-7DT) N34°05.12′ W117°08.78′ 1574 B S4 FUEL 100LL OX 1, 2 TPA-2503(929) NOTAM FILE RAL RWY 08-26: H4504X75 (ASPH) S-12.5 MIRL 2.3% up E RWY 08: REIL. PAPI(P2L)-GA 3.0° TCH 40'. Fence. RWY 26: REIL. Trees. Rgt tfc. AIRPORT REMARKS: Attended 1600-0100Z‡. Self serve 100LL fuel avbl 24-7. ACTIVATE MIRL Rwy 08-26, REIL Rwy 08, REIL Rwy 26 and PAPI Rwy 08—CTAF. AIRPORT MANAGER: 909-798-7655 COMMUNICATIONS: CTAF/AUNICOM 123.05 ® SOCAL APP/DEP CON 127.25 CLNC DEL For cinc del call Socal App 800-448-3724. RADIO AIDS TO NAVIGATION: NOTAM FILE RAL. PARADISE (H) VORTAC 112.2 PDZ Chan 59 N33°55.10° W117°31.80′ 047° 21.6 NM to fld. 1432/15E. VORTAC unusable: 130°-145° byd 25 NM blo 5,000 ° 145°-190° blo 8,000° 190°-230° blo 10,000 310°-325° byd 35 NM blo 10,900′ 325°-345° byd 25 NM blo 11,500° 345°-360° byd 35 NM blo 10,500° VOR portion unusable:

145°-190° byd 25 NM blo 10,000′ 145°-190° byd 39 NM blo 13,500′



LOS ANGELES

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Redlands Airport Association Membership Application All member information is confidential

Name						
Address:	City:	_Zip:				
Home Phone: ()	Cell Phone: ()					
Email:						
Please send your check for \$10.00 with the application to:						
Redlands Airport Association						
1745 Sessums Dr. Ste. 1						
Redlands, CA 92374-1907						

You may also join or renew at the monthly RAA meetings.

Redlands Airport Association (RAA) is in the process of becoming a 501(c)(3) organization. Until our status is finalized, membership dues and donations are not tax deductible.