

LVAA News

Letter From The Prez

[Steve Radcliffe](#)

As always a reminder about the upcoming Mexican Fiesta Night on May 7th 2011 at the Livermore Terminal (see details on page 2). Last year was a blast!!!! I hope to see you all there.

I had every intention of going on the breakfast flight to Modesto. I even talked Donna into going and she was looking forward to it! I preflighted the plane and all was in order. The plane started but not as smoothly as it normally does, but it had just had some maintenance work done by the mechanic that Donna keeps for her plane. I taxied out to the run up area. The check list was brought back out for the run up procedure. All the gages were checked OK. The throttle was set for the magneto check and the prop check 1,700 RPM magnetos kind of stumbled but a second check was OK. The tower was called for take off clearance which was given. Taxied out onto the runway and smoothly applied the throttle and the take off roll was started. At about 500 feet the throttle was brought to full power and the engine quit on the runway. Well I told the tower that I had an engine failure and they asked if I needed assistance. I declined but when I pulled back on the throttle it ran again. Needless to say the flight was scrubbed and Donna was disappointed. I still had to get breakfast for her. Anyhow the mechanic took the plane apart the next day. Low and behold the mechanic found some rags in the induction for additional filtering of the intake air. The plane was put back together and tested fine on the ground a test flight was made with no incidents. The moral to this story is the owner of the plane, Donna, should keep an eye on the mechanic, Steve, to see that he does not screw up.

One of the things that I brought at our board meeting was that the health of our club is very good old members have returned, some new member have joined. Bruce has done a yeomen's job with the web site (LVAA.ORG), which I am very excited about. And the rest of the Board have made contributions to Our Mission Statement "Have Fun" which I to believe in!!!

Let's Keeping Flying!
Steve "The Prez" Radcliffe

Next For Display

Flown over Cuba two weeks after Kruschev said they'd pull their missiles out, this plane is about to go on display at the [Castle Air Museum](#).



Two New DVDs Ordered For Future Movie Nights

Wow..., we had 18 attend our last movie night. GREAT Aircraft, Flying, Popcorn, Cookies, and Smiles! I've just ordered two more aviation DVDs for a future showing. Click on the links below to see previews:

- [When The Sky Rains Heros](#)
- [The South Takes Flight](#)



Mexican Fiesta Night

When: Saturday, May 7, 2011

Where: LIVERMORE AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING
636 TERMINAL CIRCLE
LIVERMORE, CA

Time: 5:30pm SOCIAL
6:00pm DINNER

Menu: Appetizers including salsa & chips, stuffed jalapenos, & tacquitos
Taco Bar including beef tacos, guacamole, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese,
green onions, olives, & sour cream
Spanish Rice
Refried Beans
Watermelon
Dessert and Coffee

Cost: \$10.00 PER PERSON



PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PREFERRED BEVERAGE

**Please R.S.V.P. to: JO ANN BERTOLUCCI by phone (925) 373-1687 or
by eMail (bertolucci@att.net) by Wednesday, May 4th.**

WE WILL BE AGAIN BE HAVING OUR FAMOUS 50/50 RAFFLE
TO SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT.

Livermore Airport Hot Dog Thursdays Taking A VACATION!!!

Airport Hot Dog Thursday's is taking a vacation during the month of May. There will be a LVK Tenants Day coming up on a Thursday and hopefully Hot Dog Thursdays will resume in June.

Calendar

May 7th — LVAA Mexican Fiesta

See above.

June 11th — Possible Fly Out To Swansboro

Details to be announced.

June 17-19 — [Columbia Father's Day Fly-In](#)

The more, the merrier!

June something — LVAA Movie Night

Details to be announced.

See LVAA.ORG or upcoming newsletters for more information.

Standing Meetings

Second Saturday of the month are Modesto Breakfast & Aircraft Display Fly Outs, depart before 9:30am.

Fourth Saturday of the month are Lunch Fly Outs to somewhere fun. Meet at LVK terminal at 10:30am.

Contact our [Fly Out](#) Captain Candace Murray at (925) 443-6103 or dc3ace@aol.com for more information.



Monthly Fly Outs By Candace Murray

Many intrepid pilots and passengers showed up in March and April to venture into the wild blue yonder for our fly outs. You can even see some of the great pictures taken by Bruce on our website LVAA.ORG. There's quite a motley crew on there. By the way, fantastic job on the website, Bruce (blush..., ed.).

The Modesto breakfast participants were Robert & Julie Flagg flying the Champ or Apache, Don Davis and Mark in Don's C-170, Julius and JoAnn, and son Angelo and Bob Brown in their Mooneys. Terry and I were there in our Cherokee 140, and Bruce flew along as photographer in one of the planes. There was also an open house and display day with a hangar museum open with many vintage aircraft to look at..

The first Saturday of the month Bob Brown and Charles Fiedler along with Terry and myself flew to Concord for their monthly breakfast, safety seminar and display day. Nice to see you Charles.

There was a special fly out to Calaveras for their Air Fair. Many planes from LVK, besides the regulars flew out for a beautiful day up there. Finally, our lunch fly out was to Merced where we took over Rosie's Hangar Cafe. This time we had Don in his C-170, Julius in his Mooney, Robert Flagg, and student pilot, Terry Murray, and myself and Dundee as passengers in Robert's Apache. Rob Hartley, and co-pilot Alex and backseat driver and commentator Pam, flew in Ahart's C-172SP.

Lots of fun flying times and looking forward to many more flying adventures in the months to come.

Don't forget about the Columbia Father's Day weekend fly out June 17-19. It's a great time and the more flyers we have the better.

Also, possible fly out to Swansboro, June 11. Details TBA

See you all out there in the wild blue yonder!

Happy Flying!
Candace Murray



Safety Report by Ralph Huy

Subject: To Go Or Not To Go, That Is The Question!

The Preflight should consist of more than kicking the tires, lighting the fire, and slamming the door. It would be hard to explain (as one pilot had to do) why you lost control on take off because your partner in the aircraft removed the rudder the week before. Preflight includes a through inspection of the aircraft for more than just the oil, fuel, and tires. Has there been any structural damage? Are the hinges for the flight controls worn and loose? Are the flight controls operating correctly? (With amazing regularity someone tries to take off with the controls backward.) The run-up is also an important part of the preflight. Assuming a bad spark plug will get better on takeoff makes as much sense as not doing a mag check. It is better to abort a flight and fix a problem on the ground rather than have an emergency in the air.

Remember the superior pilot uses their superior judgment and knowledge to prevent having to show their superior skills.



The LVAA Thanks Its Sponsors

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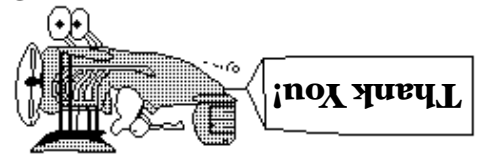
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Phone: (925) 443-4651 Pager: (925) 216-2514 eMail: s.radcliffe@comcast.net





Adventure to Oshkosh – Day 2 (Continued) — From RKS & Beyond Hopefully

Arriving at RKS (Rock Springs, Wyoming — Elevation 6764), we refueled and taxied out for takeoff. The temperature was increasing every moment and density altitude was too, so our takeoff was a staggering one and nothing felt right about the airplane even with our futile attempt of leaning the mixture, so we aborted the takeoff and landed on that beautiful 10,000' runway. Sweating bullets and now safely back at the parking area we inspected under the cowling and found that the alternator belt had broken. On further investigation Terry found out the alternator needed to be replaced. Now, the search ensued for such a thing.

We found a local mechanic who had once worked in the Bay Area (small world aviation is) who agreed to install the alternator for us, and I found one to be shipped by Fed Ex, overnight. That was enough excitement for one day. We needed some food and beverage to make it through the night.

Next day, up bright and early to meet the Fed Ex plane on its arrival and convince the pilots to search their plane for our package. Eureka, they found it. Upon opening, alas, it was the wrong one. OK, so we will try again, ordered another alternator and went through the same drill, meeting Fed Ex at 7AM searching for our box. Yeah, it's here. Upon opening, "What the %\$&# is this?" Wrong one again. Now what? Well, the third try was a charm and we found the alternator locally that afternoon. Many work hours later and much agony, Terry and our mechanic finally have it installed and everything checks out on the run up. We are beat now and ready for a celebration, nourishment and some sleep. There will be a departure at sunrise tomorrow. Doesn't look like we will make it to Oshkosh for the Cherokee reunion, but we learn tons of rain and flooding has cancelled their scheduled arrival.

Up and at 'em and off we go, leaping into the cool air, glad to be leaving Wyoming, although we met some wonderful aviators there that helped us out so much. We bid our Fed Ex pilot friends a fond farewell on their frequency and they sent their best to us too. We are enroute to Yankton, SD. Weather up ahead is not clearing up as forecast so we will divert to Thedford, NE. Why not, we have never been to Nebraska. A very narrow but neat little strip with fuel and a cool pilot lounge with computer and everything one needs to get on their way. Once in the air again we had the most beautiful flight and soon arrived at Yankton, to DC-3's and all other type of vintage airplanes and a most fantastic welcome from Carlson Aviation to all aviators.

At this rate we might still be able to make it to Oshkosh for the massive DC-3 arrival and the 75th anniversary of that magnificent airplane.

That's all till next time,

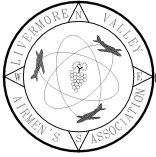
Candace & Terry (Let me know if you all are too tired of this story and I will stop).

(Hi Candace, They're fine with me! ed.)

Eagle Field's 1940's Dinner Dance

Saturday, June 11th — Stay Tuned!





LIVERMORE VALLEY AIRMENS ASSOCIATION

Livermore Valley Airmens Association (LVAA) Membership Form

Please mail the membership form to
LVAA Membership, P.O. Box 3306, Livermore, CA 94551

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Telephone (Home): _____

Alternate Phone (Work, Cell): _____

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Dues (\$20) Included

New

Renewal

Visit our website at LVAA.ORG

Do you have an experience to share?

If so, eMail Bruce Anderson at paralleler@att.net or call (925) 455-6832.

Livermore Valley Airmens Association
P.O. Box 3306
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