



North San Diego County Vernon Payne Chapter 286

President: John Hubbard Vice President: Mike Talmadge Treasure: George Pruitte

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, May 4, 2006
AFR Hanger
McClellan-Palomar Airport

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

Lt. Col. Charles Spicka,
United States Air Force retired after 30 years
service, including AC130 Gunship operations in the
South East Asia Theater during 1968 to 1969

Minutes April 6, 2006

There were no recorded minutes for the April 6
meeting. We need a Secretary!

NOTICE TO ALL OUR MEMBERS OF EAA286 WITH EXECUTIVE JETS!

TSA Issues Warning to Aircraft Owners, Airports
Web forum message "orders" destruction of private jets
April 21, 2006 - The Transportation Security
Administration (TSA) has issued an advisory warning to
aircraft owners and airport managers to remain vigilant in
the wake of an Arabic message posted on a web forum
urging followers to identify and destroy private American
jets.

By Jennifer Oldham, Times Staff Writer
April 24, 2006

At 2,000 feet, the view from Ben Meyers' Cessna says it
all: To the right of the runway, Spanish-style homes
crowd together; up ahead, concrete pads await mansions
atop a denuded hillside; and to the left, asphalt-roofed
duplexes glisten in the sun. Meyers was flying over
Oceanside Municipal Airport in San Diego County, but he
could have been circling airports in Elk Grove near
Sacramento, Watsonville in Santa Cruz County or
Bakersfield in Central California — all of which are being
squeezed by ever-expanding suburbs.

Around the state, sprawl is swallowing the once-vacant
lands around municipal airports just as the number of
small aircraft is rising, putting the need for such airports
and the pressures to close them on a collision course.
Vacant land around the state's small airports — built in
rural areas decades ago — is increasingly viewed by local
officials as their last chance to house residents and raise
tax revenue through shops and big-box stores.

"The city has grown up around the airport, and now a
developer wants to go out there and build houses," said
Irma Carson, a city councilwoman in Bakersfield, where

officials have asked the Federal Aviation Administration
for permission to close the municipal airport.

Like Bakersfield, communities around the state are
moving to build on or near their airports, either by
seeking to shut them down or by rezoning acreage that
surrounds them from agricultural to residential and
commercial.

The trend has left pilots fighting to preserve California's
324 general aviation airports, used mainly by small
aircraft.

"Urban encroachment is the biggest threat to all airports,"
said Gary Cathey, a supervisor in the division of
aeronautics at the state Department of Transportation.
Aviation advocates face a tough political fight that often
pits affluent private pilots who don't live in
neighborhoods where their aircraft are based against
communities tired of noise and desperate for tax revenue.
For their part, pilots argue that small airports are needed
for far more than recreation, providing staging areas for
firefighting aircraft during brush fires and important
training grounds for future commercial pilots.

The tug-of-war between pilots and local governments
took an unusual turn last fall, when a local congressman
quietly amended a federal transportation bill to free Rialto
in San Bernardino County from federal obligations to
keep its municipal airport open. The City Council then
voted to close the facility and replace it with homes and
shops. Congressional intervention to help close the airport
unnerved pilots who had taken solace in the fact that
operators who accept FAA grants to fix or expand their
airports are prohibited from closing them.

Only two airports have been built in the state in the last 20
years — both to replace existing facilities that were
constrained by sprawling suburbs.

Editors note: This is just the beginning of an article
about squeezing small airports out of existence in
metropolitan areas around California.

I live in San Diego and I have a RV-8 Tailkit that I
am interested in donating to EAA. The horizontal
spars and ribs are assembled and the rest is in the
box. I am not interested in selling it just due to
liability. Ty Loutzenheiser

For Sale:
2" x 2" Metal Frame Work Bench. 4 ft by 12 ft with ¾
in particle board top.
\$25.00 Bob Wilson 760-489-9031

Editors note: Barnstormer wants to advertise in our
newsletter. Let's talk about it at the next meeting