

## After Action Report Plane Crazy Saturday Mojave Air & Spaceport January 15, 2011

*Photos by: Rebecca Amber and Cathy Hansen*

Gorgeous weather for the third anniversary Plane Crazy Saturday event at Mojave Air & Spaceport with Aviator of the Month, Barry Schiff, an icon for General Aviation! Sixty-three aircraft flew in to meet Capt. Barry Schiff, retired TWA pilot with 27,000 hours logged flying



everything from Lockheed Constellation's to Boeing 747s. Another twenty Mojave based aircraft were pulled out of their hangars on display for people to see so a grand total of 83 aircraft!

Everyone gathered around to hear Capt. Schiff tell what inspired him to fly. He advised all the young people in attendance to follow their dreams and not to be deterred by anyone!

He learned to fly, even though his parents didn't support him – that is until he was employed with TWA and they were able to obtain free boarding passes!

In looking at our pilot sign in sheets, we had people from Portland, OR; Reno, NV; Prescott, AZ; Tucson, AZ; San Diego, CA; Torrance Airport (Zamperini Field); Long Beach Airport; Camarillo Airport; Bakersfield Municipal; Hawthorne Airport (Jack Northrop Field); Trona Airport; Paso Robles Airport; Inyokern Airport; Wm. J. Fox Field, Lancaster; Rosamond Airport; Little Buttes Antique Air Park; Tehachapi and Pontius Airport also known as Ancient Valley Air Park.

All in all – a gorgeous “Chamber of Commerce” Mojave day!

The Mojave Transportation Museum Foundation owes Mojave Airport General Manager Stuart Witt; Operations Manager, Bob Rice; Fueler Ron Langford; and everyone manning the Mojave Tower and Unicom a huge thank you for their great work and support each month as we organize Plane Crazy Saturday. It doesn't “just happen,” there is advance coordination, management and proficiency on the part of the Mojave Airport staff. Be sure to give them a ‘thank you’ when you see them again!





This 1957 Bellanca is owned by James Roberts of Tehachapi. He said, "This airplane has been in our family for over forty years." He has a 1957 Chevy pickup that is painted to match the Bellanca. I'd say 1957 was a good year for Mr. Roberts!

Bellanca Aircraft Corp.

of America was originated in 1927. Giuseppe Mario Bellanca was the founder.

Many different makes and models of aircraft graced the tarmac at Mojave Air & Spaceport on Saturday.

This 1981 Cessna 340 flew in from Tucson, AZ. Two Piper Malibu's came to Plane Crazy; one was from Prescott, AZ and the other was from San Diego, CA.

One of the first Lancair's constructed in 1988, came in from Long Beach. Cody Pierce, Flight Instructor and Aces High Aviation planned a special fly-out to come to



Plane Crazy this month and said that they would be back.

We were so glad the day was calm and perfect for flying and it was also ideal for a picture perfect day at the airport.

It was good to see Doug Castleman there with his outstanding aviation art and Maggie Geimke of Usborne Books.

Wen Painter is always faithful to sign the aircraft forms for pilots display their historic aircraft. Thank you Wen! We love your stories about Nebraska and the Lifting Body!



We are so grateful to Chris Martin, Rheta Scott and Heather Benes for their dedication working in the MTM booth selling Rutan Rocket Fuel hot sauce, posters and books. Speaking of books; MTM would like to thank Alan Radecki for donating half of the sales price of his *Mojave Scrapbook – Memories of a Most Unusual Airport*, Volume One to the museum fund. The “*Edwards Air Force Base – Images of Aviation*,” book by Dr. Christian Gelzer was a huge hit, as well.

We appreciate Alan and Rebecca, for driving the tram and giving such

informative tours! No one gives better airport tours! It was so good to hear the comments as people were leaving – “We had so much fun, we want to come back next time!”

Hugo Waigand, ASN (Airport Support Network) Volunteer for AOPA for Tehachapi Municipal Airport and future Civil Air Patrol Squadron 46 Tehachapi Squadron Commander brought



CAP cadets from Tehachapi and Bakersfield. Connie McCullough is working with Waigand to build up aircrews with the final goal to get a CAP SAR (Search and Rescue) aircraft based at Tehachapi. This photo shows all of the cadets with Capt. Barry Schiff; world renowned Voyager pilot, Dick Rutan; Plane Crazy organizer Cathy

Hansen and Phil Schultz, owner of the 1961 Beechcraft Model 18 with the CAP cadets from Tehachapi and Bakersfield.



An impressive lineup of aircraft, including: a beautiful Long EZ; Barry Schiff's Cessna 182; and Al Hansen's North American T-28B.

Gary and Char Spencer from Ridgecrest brought their unusual Long EZ with a V-8 Ford 302 engine for power!

Gary explains that the engine is approximately the same dimensions as

a Lycoming 0320 engine that most people use in Long EZ's. Char is a member of the Antelope Valley Ninety-Nines, who showed up in force for the January Plane Crazy.

We always love seeing Heather Benes and Jere Calef's red Cessna 195!



Thank you to everyone who came to Plane Crazy Saturday. We were so glad to see so many young children and hope we can encourage them to learn to fly and gain valuable aerospace knowledge!

See you on Saturday, February 19, 2011, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Mojave Airport!