

**PLANE CRAZY SATURDAY – FEBRUARY 16, 2013
AFTER ACTION REPORT**

Can you believe a high of 68-degrees in February, with just a light east breeze? It was much warmer in the sun and the brave souls who sat in the shade at the Mojave Transportation Museum's promotion table were really chilly for the first couple of hours. Thank you to Chris and Riitta Martin, Bill Deaver, Heather Benes and Midge Wright!

We always enjoy visiting with Maggie Geimke of Usborne Books and Doug Castleman, Aviation Artist at Plane Crazy Saturday.

We welcome the participation of the Aviation Explorers Post 787 from Fox Airfield. They had a display table in January and February at Plane Crazy Saturday.



Aviation Explorers is dedicated to the youth of our community and engage in program activities centered on the five emphasis areas (career opportunities, life skills, citizenship, character education, and leadership experience) to encourage the development of the whole person.

Major Dave Marten, USAF, B-1 test pilot at Edwards Air

Force Base is a tenant at Mojave Air and Spaceport and adult volunteer for Post 787. For more information about this outstanding youth program, please contact Tom "Duke" Wayne, Twfox2@sbcglobal.net or call 661.269.1950 www.aviationexploring.com



Heather Benes' husband, Jere Calef, flew in their bright red 1948 Cessna 195, a real show stopper!

The seven-cylinder, air-cooled, radial engine gives the Cessna 195 a distinctive look and sound. William Nancarrow took these photos of the 195! Thank you William!

Each month brings different General Aviation aircraft and visitors to Mojave Air & Spaceport. Since our theme this month was gliders and soaring – our audience was in tune with our speaker Jim Payne, top record setting glider pilot, preparing to take a specially built pressurized high-altitude sailplane to 90,000-feet with the Perlan 2 Project. See <http://perlanproject.org/> for more information. Donations are

welcome for this exciting mission.

Jim's wife, Jackie, is his greatest supporter and crewmember. She is the one who is always tracking his flights and is on hand with the sailplane trailer when he lands after setting another speed or distance record!

Jim is known as "Jet Pilot" to his soaring friends due to all of his speed records in sailplanes. He has set 56 National records and 5 World Records.

Payne started flying gliders at the Air Force Academy in 1971. Retired from the Air Force in 1996, he has more than 8,000 hours of flying time



in aircraft ranging from gliders to F-16 fighter jets, including 3,975 hours of soaring.

He flew F-4s, F-5s, and F-16s as an instructor at the Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards and retired as a LtCol from the USAF after 22 years of service. Currently, he works at Northrop-Grumman on Mojave Air & Spaceport.

Mojave Transportation Museum presented Payne with a Plane Crazy Saturday hat in appreciation for his presentation.

Jim Roberts flew his immaculate 1957 Bellanca to MHV from Tehachapi Airport (TSP) and he has a 1957 Chevy pickup painted to match the Bellanca. Both the aircraft and the truck belonged to his father and he feels this is a perfect way to always honor his Dad.



The first Bellanca airplane was built in 1913 in Brooklyn, New York, designed with the propeller at the front of the aircraft and the tail at the rear. This was considered revolutionary for the time, since the Wright brothers and other early aircraft designers positioned the tail at the front and the propellers in the rear.

Bellanca taught himself to fly his 25-horsepower (19-kilowatt) aircraft but most other pilots were afraid to try it. A year later in 1914, he opened the

Bellanca Aeroplane Company and Flying School where many notables learned to fly, including the young Fiorello LaGuardia, who later became an ace in World War I and mayor of New York City.

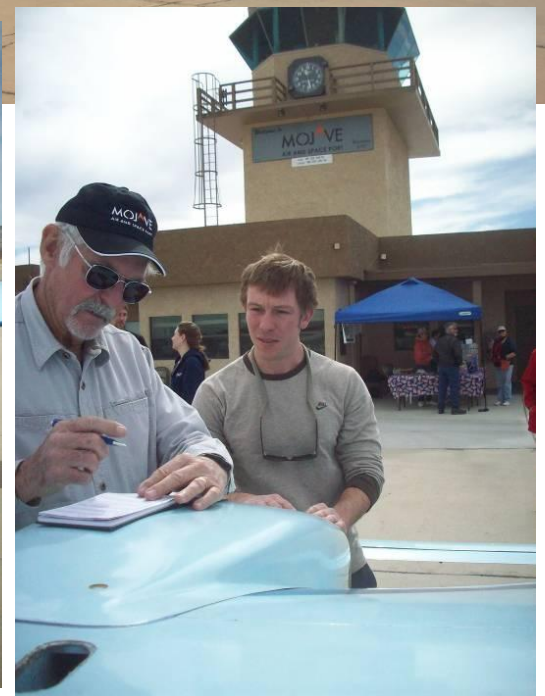


It was good to see Tony Ginn and his red, white and blue Thorp T-18 at Plane Crazy! Have him tell you about his Mom and her T-18 sometime. She wouldn't let him fly it when he first received his license. Wen Painter can tell some good stories about Howard and Elaine Ginn too! Wonderful stalwart aviation minded folks – so happy to call them 'friend.'

Thank you Wen for always being there to sign the Historic Aircraft Exempt forms for all of the aircraft owners who fly in to Plane Crazy Saturday! His table is always busy in the Voyager Restaurant!

Al Hansen had a pair of North American T-28's on the ramp and a Grumman S2F Tracker was parked next to them. Our friend William Nancarrow took both of these photos too! Love his photos!

Dustin Riggs convinced Dick Rutan to let him re-assemble Ole Blue, the Long Eze that Rutan flew around the world with Mike Melvill on the EAA 'Round the World Friendship Tour' in 1997. Rutan also set many distance records in this aircraft.



Saturday was Dustin's first solo flight in 'Ole Blue.' Dick made the comment that it felt odd to see his airplane fly by while he stood on the ground. Another very significant logbook entry!

What a pleasure to see the enthusiasm of the future pilots at Plane Crazy! These two guys are in love with this Van's RV-10!

The Mojave Transportation Museum members and board are delighted to offer children this free educational opportunity to learn about the importance of General Aviation and the benefit of America's public airports. Pilots are always eager to share their love and enjoyment of flight!



The boys pictured at the left are the sons of a pilot attending the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School at Edwards Air Force Base from Holland. They couldn't get enough of toy airplanes and real airplanes! Must be in their genes!

Lori and Rick Lovett, from Wrightwood, CA flew their 1947 North American Navion to Mojave and they are the winners of the MTM duffle bag!

Thank you, Ron Langford, for your assistance with tables and chairs, and unlocking the board room for our speaker. We appreciate your help so much. The ramp was full of a wide variety of aircraft and we were thankful for the great weather.

Next month, March 16, we will salute Rocket Photography with a presentation by Mike Massee. We are inviting Mojave Air & Spaceport rocket companies to show their wares!

See you next month at Plane Crazy Saturday!

