

# The Diablo Aviator

A Publication of the Contra Costa County Airports Division

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Buchanan Field and Byron Airports - [www.buchananfield-byronairports.org](http://www.buchananfield-byronairports.org)

## Questions About The Airport Land Use Commission Answered

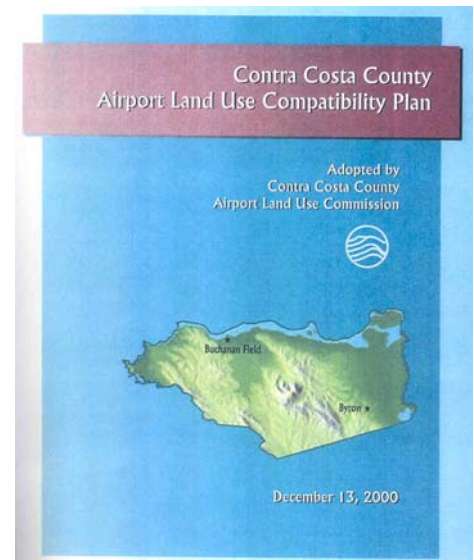
### Director's Corner

In the late 1960's California Legislature enacted the portion of the state aeronautics law that provided for the creation of Airport Land Use Commissions (ALUC). There have been many amendments to the original law during the past 35 years. However, the legislation's purpose has remained mostly unchanged and currently states that:

- "It is in the public interest to provide for the orderly development of each public use airport in this state and the area surrounding these airports so as to promote the overall goals and objectives of the California airport noise standards adopted pursuant to Section 21669 and to prevent the creation of new noise and safety problems."
- "It is the purpose of this article to protect public health, safety, and welfare by ensuring the orderly expansion of airports and the adoption of land use measures that minimize the public's exposure to excessive noise and safety hazards within areas around public airports to the extent that these areas are not already devoted to incompatible uses."

Airport staff is frequently asked what the ALUC does and what the make up of its membership is. In 1970 Contra Costa County established the Airport Land Use Commission. The County's ALUC consists of seven members:

- Two members appointed by the Board of Supervisors (Hal Yeager and Kathy Leighton);
- Two members appointed by a committee comprised of mayors of the cities in the county (Pleasant Hill City Council Member David Durant and Brentwood Mayor Brian Swisher);
- Two members appointed by the Director of Airports (Dick Rihn and Arnold



Peterson); and

- One member, representing the general public, appointed by the balance of the ALUC members (Philip Day).

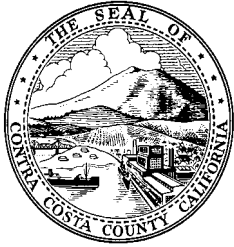
In the most general of terms, the County's Airport Land Use Commission (1) develops land use plans for property around each airport, (2) reviews and comments on the land use plans prepared by the local jurisdictions surrounding the County's airports (i.e. Contra Costa County, City of Concord, City of Martinez, and City of Pleasant Hill), and (3) reviews and comments on proposed Airport Master Plans and their possible effects upon surrounding land uses.

In summary, the purpose of the ALUC is to establish land use plans which ensure that future developments around Buchanan Field and Byron Airports are compatible with the airports' future development plans within the airport boundaries.

**ALUC meetings are typically held in the Board of Supervisors Chambers at 651 Pine Street, Martinez on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm.**

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## Airport Selects ALUC Representatives

Earlier this year the Airport Land Use Commission had two vacant seats, both of which were appointed by the Acting Director of Airports. We interviewed several qualified candidates interested in filling the vacancies.

The Airport staff is excited to introduce their selection of the two newest members to the ALUC: Mr. Arnold Peterson and Dr. Dick Rihn. These individuals were ultimately selected because of their extensive aviation experience and diverse backgrounds.

Mr. Peterson holds private, multi-engine

and instrument certificates. Additionally, he holds Airframe and Powerplant Inspection Authorization. Mr. Peterson has been involved in aviation in Contra Costa County for more than 26 years. He grew up around airplanes; his mother was a pilot.

Dr. ("Doc") Rihn holds commercial, multi-engine, instrument, and Certified Flight Instructor certificates. He is only one of 8 in the United States designated as a Master Certified Flight Instructor/Aerobatics. Dr. Rihn has been involved in aviation in Contra Costa County for more than 50 years.

## Runway Incursion Reduction and the Ground Marker System

Expectations are high for the Ground Marker System, a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Research & Development program aimed at reducing runway incursion rates. By sending a voice message to pilots over the 75MHz marker beacon frequency, Ground Marker informs pilots of their location on the airport surface.

Ground Marker will be installed in September 2003 at Buchanan Field Airport in an effort to increase pilot situational awareness. Already tested at the FAA's William J. Hughes Technical Center, Ground Marker will be evaluated at Buchanan Field (CCR) for a period of nine months beginning October 2003.

Pilots flying aircraft equipped with marker beacon receivers are encouraged to participate in the operational evaluation. Pilots who frequent CCR may be eligible to participate in a long-term evaluation panel. Panel volunteers will be asked to give periodic feedback

throughout the nine-month evaluation and will have a chance to win a handheld Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) Global Positioning System (GPS).

To participate in the evaluation, simply follow these two easy steps:

**Step 1:** Turn your aircraft's marker receiver ON (making sure volume is up) at all times when taxiing on the airport surface at CCR.

**Step 2:** Provide your feedback by completing a short survey for *each* Ground Marker experience. Surveys are available at Fixed-Base Operators (FBO's), Pilot's Lounge, Director of Airports Office and online at the website listed below.

For more information, visit <http://www.faa.gov/and/and500/520/Programs/GM.html> or call (202) 497-9809.



## Airports Participate In Local National Night Out Against Crime

On August 5, 2003 the Concord Estates community got together for the National Night Out Against Crime. The "20th Annual National Night Out" (NNO), is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW).

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, generate support for and participation in local anticrime programs, strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships, and send a message to crimi-

nals letting them know that the neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Estates Association President Judi Kleckner welcomed everyone and thanked the City of Concord and the Concord Police department for all the hard work they had done to help make the National Night Out a success in their neighborhood.

Information booths were set up by the Concord Police Department, the Estates Association, the Frederic Ozanam Recovery Center for Women, and the Contra Costa County Airports.



## Meet the Airport Staff—Airport Operations



From Left to Right:

Mario Loya—Airport Operations Specialist; Mark Grosenheider—Airport Operations Specialist; Bill Stockdale—Lead Airport Operations Specialist; Michael Ivy—Airport Operations Specialist; Ron Richman—Airport Operations Specialist; Steve Callahan—Lead Airport Operations Specialist; Yohei Kakuda—Airport Operations Technician; Rob Wangan—Airport Operations Technician; **Not Pictured:** Ed Asbert—Airport Operations Specialist

## Meet the Airport Staff—Administration



From Left to Right:

KC Coyle—Supervisor of Airport Operations; Sue Hill—Accounting Technician; Kim Jeffries—Real Properties Technician; Diane Favero—Airport Secretary; Keith Freitas—Acting Director of Airports; Doreen Arens—Environmental and Community Relations Officer

## A Century of Flight

[http://www.centennialofflight.gov/user/Media\\_Kit\\_03.htm](http://www.centennialofflight.gov/user/Media_Kit_03.htm)

On December 17, 1903, at 10:35 a.m., the world's first successful powered aircraft lifted off the beach at the Outer Banks, North Carolina for a 12-second, 120-foot journey. A new industry was born, and a new way of life followed closely behind.

Driven by two brothers unwavering in their task, that flight accomplished what people had only imagined since the beginning of time. Realizing this dream took more than wings, wheels and a motor. It took the spirit of adventure, the tenacity brought on by risk and failure, and the desire to achieve

a freedom which humans had never before experienced.

No invention has made such an indelible imprint on our world as the airplane. In 2003, the national celebration *Centennial of Flight: Born of Dreams - Inspired by Freedom* will commemorate the world's rich history of aviation accomplishments through events, symposiums, air shows, special programming, exhibits, tours, educational outreach and more throughout the country. Visit the U.S. Centennial of Flight Commission at [www.centennialofflight.gov](http://www.centennialofflight.gov)



A replica of the Wright Flyer was on display at the Mount Diablo Pilot's Association's Annual BBQ. According to MDPA President Dianne Cole, more than 1600 people attended the July 12<sup>th</sup> event.



## Contra Costa County Airports

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### Buchanan Field and Byron Airports

[www.buchananfield-byronairports.org](http://www.buchananfield-byronairports.org)

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## Concord Chamber of Commerce Airport Forum Attracts A Crowd

On August 18, 2003, the Concord Chamber of Commerce held an Airports Forum that included local, state and national aviation experts. The turnout was excellent with approximately 100 members of the public in attendance. Contra Costa County Supervisor Mark DeSaulnier, Mount Diablo Pilots Association President, Diane Cole and People Over Planes President Hal Yeager were also in attendance.

The panel highlighted the importance of the County Airports in the national aviation system. Speakers included Spencer Dickerson of the American Association of Airport Executives, Joe Rodriguez of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), Austin Wiswell of Caltrans and Keith Freitas with Contra Costa County Airports. Panel members discussed the transportation value of Buchanan Field and Byron Airports in the local, state and national transportation systems.

Some of the highlights of the meeting included the fact that both Buchanan Field and Byron Airports are part of the FAA's National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS). On a national and regional basis both Buchanan Field and Byron Airports accommo-

date smaller and slower aircraft that would only add to the air traffic congestion delays at San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose International Airports. Mixing a Cessna 172 (landing speed of 60 knots) with a Boeing 747 (landing speed of 154 knots) could paralyze the air traffic system at any given Airport. That would be like mixing motorized scooters on your local freeways. What would that do to the morning commute?

A question from a member of the public summarized the evening's topic: "What is the value of the land so we can determine if building homes on the property would be more valuable than the airport?" Members of the panel responded by stating that it's not an apples-to-apples comparison. It would be like trying to compare the value of land under a state highway. That land serves transportation needs, but since a highway doesn't make money, the state would make money selling the land for development. However, that action would not support the transportation needs of the state or region. The same can be said for the value of an airport and its associated land.