Dear Airventurers,

As you may have heard, we voted in a new slate of officers for 2017. That means that Marv Rifkin is in and I am out. I’m already missing it somewhat but I’m doing all that I can to make this a smooth transition. The people from Marv’s team are working well with the people from my team.

Let me share with you some of the great ideas I had when I became president. I guess Marv will have to do them now….

- A talent show fly-in (I believe everyone has a talent – even if it’s the gift of gab – that they’d like to show off and this would be the place to do it) Not done.
- Dinner meeting at someone’s home (Tacos at Rifkins – did it twice!)
- Board meeting at someone’s home (Having it in Felker’s hangar – does that count?)
- Visit the members in their homes (only partially done but I’ll keep at this one)
- Take turns on who writes the message for the newsletter (not done – poor delegation)
- 5 minute safety message at board meetings (great idea but only did it twice)
- Share local upcoming training sessions at board meetings (great idea but only did it twice)
- Safety quizzes at dinners with a small prize (not done)
- Raise annual dues to $75 to keep from dipping into club reserves (Epic fail as members threatened to quit club since it would be too expensive)
- Holiday party at someone’s house (proposed it but on second thought, not such a great idea)
- Giving away confiscated terrorist knives as speaker appreciation gifts (Done!)

It has truly been a blast and I will still very much be involved as I hope you will be.

In closing, I will share the Five Nevers to Safe Flying:

Never – have to take off
Never – take off without knowing your fuel
Never – fly without using a checklist
Never – determine that you have to get there
Never – have to land on this approach
Never turn down an opportunity to serve in the Airventurers! Wait! That’s six!

See you around,

Mike Savage

We’d like to hear what you have to say
WELCOME BACK to Gary and Sherri Cunial, club members from way back when, who re-joined Airventurers at the October dinner meeting. They are no longer airplane owners, but Sherri got her PVT in her 8th month of pregnancy and Gary is a CFI and was president in 1991. They are in-between permanent houses, but you can contact them at grtplt@aol.com or propjcky@aol.com.

2017 Fly-Ins (check the web for changes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Host</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>Chiriaco Summit, 1 day</td>
<td>Savage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb. 24-26</td>
<td>Glendale AZ, 2 nights</td>
<td>Punt</td>
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<td>Mar.</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr. 22</td>
<td>5th Annual Poker Run</td>
<td>Savage/Cheer</td>
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<td>May</td>
<td>TBA</td>
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<td>June 3-4</td>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Stewart, Franco</td>
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<td>July 7-9</td>
<td>Gold Beach OR</td>
<td>Punt</td>
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<td>Aug. 5</td>
<td>Club Picnic at CMA</td>
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<td>Sept. 2-3</td>
<td>San Diego, 1 night</td>
<td>Rainey</td>
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<td>Oct. 7-8</td>
<td>Bisbee AZ, 2 nights</td>
<td>Cashin</td>
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<td>Nov.</td>
<td>Henderson NV</td>
<td>Eisenberg</td>
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<td>Dec. 2</td>
<td>Holiday Party</td>
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2017 Meetings (not carved in stone)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Dinner</th>
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<td>Mar.</td>
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PALM SPRINGS 2016
Wow! Lorraine and Dan Simanksy planned and executed an excellent outing! Our group included Fred and Christie Stewart; Marv and Judy Rifkin; Don and Joan McMullen; Tony and Elena Samojen; Michael and Sharon Landau;
Ernie and Kris Salmon; and of course, our leaders, the Simanskys. We started at the Bermuda Dunes Airport on Friday; a nice airport with an FBO that welcomed us with a personalized sign. Dan was our fearless driver of a large-passenger van. Off we went to check into the Embassy Suites. Lovely place. Lorraine arranged lots of appetizers at happy hour before dinner at Sherman's Deli. After a huge dinner, we were all ready to call it a night and get ready for tomorrow.

Lorraine and Dan arranged great tours on Saturday! First we went on the Windmill Tour. With our guide, Randy, we learned about the evolution of windmills and saw examples of some, including the latest and best - the Vesta. One Vesta can power about 1000 homes. Their blades are 144' long and weigh 10 tons. The towers are 13' across at the base and weigh 70 tons. In the San Gorgonio/Banning Pass there are approximately 2153 windmills (only 4 were Vestas on the "farm" that we toured); the area is divided into 40 farms. Some of the land is privately owned and the rest is owned by the Bureau of Land Management. For a mere $4-5 million you can own a Vesta. Our tour was very interesting, and we all got to sample a delicious date shake!

The day continued at the Palm Springs Air Museum. Lorraine arranged for lunch; tables were set up and reserved for us. Then the best docents I have ever heard took us on tour. The museum is a wonderful place with lots of great planes from World War II, the Korean and Vietnam eras. The docents had stories about each one, and all questions were answered. A highlight for me was crawling thru a B17. Brings history to life.

Dinner at Cactus Jack's Saturday night was wonderful. Delicious food, from prime rib, to fish, to appetizers, to salads. Alas, no room for dessert.

A huge “thank you” to the Simanskys for arranging such a lovely fly-in. They missed no detail in making it perfect.

-- Kris Salmon
Plan to land at 10 am. We will walk to the museum—senior admission is $5.50. We will have lunch at the historic coffee shop at 12:30 pm and depart for home at 2 pm.

BE ADVISED—THERE ARE NO SERVICES AVAILABLE

FOR THE HISTORY BUFFS AMONG YOU: In 1942, General George S. Patton had the daunting task of training a million men to endure the harsh conditions of the Sahara in northern Africa, and he had found the right place – 18,000 square miles (47,000 km²) of Mojave and Colorado Desert – the entire southeast corner of California and part of Arizona. The area would be known as the California/Arizona Maneuver Area (CAMA). Patton chose a site a mile east of Shaver Summit to establish the headquarters of his operation, Camp Young. During the time the base was active, countless soldiers were drawn “like bees to blossoms” to the well-stocked general store that was there. Operations were conducted until 1944, when the Allies declared victory in the Sahara.

In 1945, after Patton died in a freak automobile accident in Germany, the Chiriacos established a memorial to him at the Summit.

In 1958, a post office was established, and the town was renamed Chiriaco Summit. The construction of Interstate 10 in the 1960s, replacing U.S. Route 60 and bypassing Box Canyon Road, meant that the Summit was no longer the only high point on the route, but the name stuck and remains to this day. In 1989, the Bureau of Land Management and Patton’s estate expanded the Chiriacos' memorial and opened a museum on the site of Camp Young to honor Patton and interpret the history of the Desert Training Center. The centerpiece of the museum is “The Big Map,” a 5-ton jigsaw relief map created by LADWP depicting the area traversed by the Colorado River Aqueduct. The map, later used by Patton's staff, also illustrates the locations of the 11 training camps that comprised Patton’s mammoth operation. Also located at the museum is a statue of Patton, which can be seen from Interstate 10.
Goodyear, AZ (KGYR)
BONEYARD AND BASEBALL
Feb. 24-26th (2 nights)

➤ GALA COCKTAIL PARTY FRIDAY EVENING
➤ PRESENTATION AT GLENDALE AIRPORT ABOUT THEIR RICH AVIATION HISTORY AS A TRAINING BASE DURING WWII
➤ PRESENTATION AND TOUR OF THE DISMANTLING AND REFURBISHING OF AIRLINERS

TRAINING CAMP BASEBALL GAME
TICKETS, ABOUT $50/EACH NOT INCLUDED AND NON-REFUNDABLE

➤ DODGERS vs. CHICAGO WHITE SOX
➤ DINNER ON YOUR OWN SATURDAY
➤ FLY HOME SUNDAY MORNING

COST: $340/COUPLE, $295/SINGLE
$350.46 AND $304.12 WITH CREDIT CARD
$100 TO HENRY PUNT TO RESERVE

17036 WOODRUFF AVE. #3
BELLFLOWER 90706
562-881-9018
henrypunt@gmail.com

THE ONLY THING MISSING IS THE
Dues are payable December 1st and delinquent February 1st.
Please make your check out to Airventurers and mail to:
Judy Rifkin
29630 Ridgeway Dr.
Agoura Hills, CA 91301

2017 Membership Dues..........................................................$70.00
Credit Card.............................................................................$72.50

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PROMPT PAYMENT

The following information will be used in compiling the new roster. Please
PRINT LEGIBLY. We can’t be responsible if we can’t read it. Cut-off date for the roster
is
January 20th.

Name: .................................................................
Spouse or S/O: ...................................................
Address: ...........................................................

...........................................................
Home Phone: ...................................................
Work Phone..................................................
Cell: .............................................................
Email: ...........................................................
Occupation: ...................................................

...........................................................
Ratings: ..........................................................
Airplane ........................................................
Number ........................................................
Based at ....................................................... 

PLEASE...
even if you’re paying on line, take an
extra minute to fill out this form and
send it in. It will make maintaining our
data base accurately so much easier. If
there are no changes, check the box
below, and make sure your name is
on this form.

[ ]
At the November dinner meeting, Mike Hodson had an interesting story to tell about buying old war planes in South America and getting them back to Santa Paula.

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<tr>
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<td><strong>January</strong></td>
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**Question of the Day**

If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked and dry cleaners depressed?

**NOTHING TO REPORT**