



# The Airventurers Flyer

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I'm delighted to see several new faces over the last couple of months with new applicants joining us. Those I've talked with are interesting, engaging people with broad backgrounds and a wide range of aviation and life experience. And there are several more pilots in the area who have expressed interest in Airventurers

Let's keep this trend going. As we know, Don E. has a long history of singing the praises of the club and bringing in record numbers of new people. He talks to people (ok, lots of people) and if they seem interested, he invites them to a dinner meeting and gets the ball rolling. But here's the thing: we all need to do that. When the opportunity presents itself, say maybe waiting to get fuel, or at an airport restaurant, tell people about us. Maybe get an email address to stay in touch, give them our web site.

Follow up and invite them to a dinner meeting. More often than not, our speakers are interesting and their presentations compelling. At the May event, the story about NASA's SOFIA telescope was certainly memorable, and a worthwhile evening for any potential member. If they decide to join, then stay in touch and help them out with meeting the various requirements.

On a related, noteworthy item, the venerable, generous Mike Savage has offered to step in as our Membership Chair. But that role will be changing. In the past, the membership chair has been given some contact information and has been responsible for reaching out, "selling" the club, and shepherding people through the membership process. Now this will become more of a coordinator position, keeping in touch with those of us who are bringing in new people, having an overview of all incoming members.

The other action we're taking is reaching out to some flight schools in the area. While CFI's are good potential members, they may be a gateway to newly minted private pilots. Airventurers can be a valuable resource for new pilots to stay interested and engaged in flying at a very low cost. This would be good for the club and good for new people, providing them opportunities to stay involved and have access to people with a wealth of experience. It would also be good for the flight schools as the pilots continue on toward additional ratings and renting airplanes.

As Airventurers grows and we see new faces, introduce yourself, make room for them at your table at Lulu's. Find out what makes them tick, listen to their stories, and welcome them. After all, someone did the same for each one of us.

Tim Cashin, President

## **DINNER MEETING** **Sunday, June 24th** **Lulu's**

**6:00 Socializing**  
**6:30 Dinner**  
**7:30 Speaker**

**We haven't lined up a speaker for the dinner meeting as yet, but we're working on it.**

**We'll let you know more when we know.**

**Worst case scenario—we'll just have a social evening. Airventurers have never had a problem making conversation.**

**RESERVE AT**  
**AIRVENTURERS.ORG or**  
**mrifkin397@aol.com**

**(car-pool if you can)**

**BOARD MEETING**  
**Signature Aviation, VNY**  
**Saturday June 30th**  
**10:00 am**  
**We Have Donuts**

# AIRVENTURERS APPLICANT CHECKLIST

DATE	APPLICANT	SPONSOR	FEE	DINNER MEETING		FLY-IN	
				co-host	add'l	co-host	add'l
2/16	Landi	Eisenberg	Y		Y	Y	
12/16	Brend	Frangos	Y	Y	Y		Y
3/18	Schmitt		Y		Y		
4/18	LaPook	Eisenberg	Y		Y		

We have 4 new applicants who didn't make it into the new roster. Please add the following:

**Gary LaPook**, 11830 Courtney Ln, Moorpark 93021. (H) 805-529-5621 and (C) 805-660-0616. N74218 is an AA5B based at CMA. Ratings include ATP, CFII. And CFIM. Gary started his aviation career by jumping out of airplanes, then went on to fly cargo and the P135 commuters in the Midwest. He then went to law school and started practicing aviation litigation in 1989, defending pilots, flight schools and manufacturers. He taught aviation law at Embry Riddle and is still teaching a primary student.

**Nabih Balady**, 21756 Don Gee Ct., Santa Clarita 91350. (H) 661-297-5559 and (C) 661-313-4418. Nabih flies a C-172RG, N5537R based at WHP, and has his IFR. Nabih came to the U.S. from Egypt in 1970 and got degrees in chemistry and electrical engineering from CalStateLA. He got his private in 2000 and now has 1600 hours as PIC.

**Michael Klein** and Carol Barring, 4126 Cachalote St, Woodland Hills 91364. (H) 818-227-8079 (W) 818-308-3881 (C) 818-601-4918, michaelklein@yahoo.com. Michael learned to fly with Air Explorers at VNY and got his PVT at 18. Then college, marriage, family and work got in the way so flying took a back seat for 40 years. Michael flies with the 8 Ball club and has a taildragger endorsement. He has completed the EMT course and the aerobatics course at CP Aviation.

**Raghu Murthy** and Grace Ting, 1530 Kensington Rd., San Marino 91108. (H) 626-905-1595 (W) 310-275-4949 (C) 310-770-6822, murthyretina@yahoo.com. Raghu flies a Cirrus SR 22T GTS, N495RM and is based at VNY. He has his PVT and is working on his IFR, and has 300+ hours. He and his wife Grace are both physicians, they have 3 kids and love visiting all parts of CA and the southwest, especially the National Parks.

## 2018 CALENDAR

	DINNER	BOARD	FLY-IN DATE	DESTINATION	HOST
JUNE	24	30	8th-10th	Benson, AZ	Busick
JULY	NONE	28	21st	Club Picnic	Samojen
AUG	NONE	18	25th	Confusion Hill, Ukiah	Simansky
SEPT	8	29	14th-16th	VNY Prop	No Host
OCT	21	27		Prescott, AZ	Klenner
NOV	18	24		China Lake	Rainey
DEC	1	29		Holiday Party 	Stewart

**10 Things “Real Pilots” Do – from Air Facts;** One person’s definition of a real pilot—it starts with someone who is smart enough to stay alive while flying, and it ends with someone who has fun doing it.

1. Real pilots help a fellow aviator when in need (Airventurers). While the extent of pilot fellowship can be debated, real pilots go out of their way to help a fellow aviator. Whether it’s helping to tie down an airplane in the rain or offering to share operating expenses, most pilots recognize that our group is a small one and needs all the support it can get.

2. Real pilots don’t get into arguments on CTAF. Is there anything more pathetic than listening to a couple of arrogant pilots arguing about who cut the other guy off in the pattern? Real pilots know that such arguments only make flying more dangerous, so they avoid them. Even better, real pilots fly a standard traffic pattern.

3. Real pilots are not afraid to cancel a flight. There is no purple heart in aviation, in spite of what some NTSB reports suggest. A real pilot feels no shame in canceling a flight, whether it’s due to weather, mechanical issues or just not feeling up to it. Unless you’re in the military, no flight is worth dying over.

4. Real pilots are also not afraid to push themselves. Just because real pilots are humble enough to cancel a flight does not mean they lack confidence. To keep improving, they have to deliberately—but safely—push their boundaries. That means taking on a 15 knot crosswind when the time is right, or opting for annual recurrent training instead of the minimum BFR.

5. Real pilots embrace new technology, but never become slaves to it. There is no extra credit for completing a flight without a GPS. Sure, it’s a fun thing to do in a Cub on a beautiful day, and real pilots know how to fly without the latest gadgets, but only a dyed-in-the-wool contrarian would suggest that a KX170B is better than a GTN 750. Likewise, nobody is impressed if you don’t use the autopilot. Real pilots use all the tools at their disposal.

6. Real pilots are polite to FBO staff. Some pilots step out of their planes as if they are John Wayne inspecting the crew of a World War II battleship. Real pilots know better. Line techs and FBO staff are partners, not employees, and just might bail out a needy pilot one day. Best not to burn that bridge.

7. Real pilots fly the right airplane for their mission, skills and budget. Real pilots don’t care if they are flying a fancy new King Air or a well-loved Skyhawk. Both are excellent airplanes, depending on the mission, and both require real pilots to fly them. Likewise, the position of the third wheel does not determine the skill of a real pilot.

8. Real pilots view ATC as a friend, not an enemy. Air Traffic Control, far from being the aerial police, is an invaluable resource for anyone willing to use it. Real pilots aren’t afraid to ask a controller’s advice regarding weather or to request progressive taxi instructions at a big airport. Amateurs try to fake it; pros ask for help.

9. Real pilots are humble. Mother Nature, gravity and Murphy’s Law are constantly working against light airplanes. Real pilots understand this, and appreciate the fine balance that’s required to complete a flight safely. That means they never overestimate their abilities or their airplane’s performance. It also means they are open to criticism, whether it’s from a flight instructor, another (respected) pilot or from themselves during a post-flight debriefing.

10. Real pilots act like ambassadors for general aviation—all the time. Just like a professional athlete or a politician, pilots are “always on,” at least in terms of representing general aviation to others. Real pilots don’t brag about breaking the rules or tell dare devil stories at a cocktail party. Real pilots share the honest truth about flying: that it’s hard work and involves risk, but that it’s immensely rewarding and incredibly powerful. And fun.





# **Karchner Caverns**

## **June 8-10**

### **2 Nights**

**Fly into Benson Mun (E95), Where the Fuel is Cheap and the FBO is Eager to Please**

**approx. \$260 per couple, \$200 per single or \$268.07 and \$206.28 with a credit card**

Experience a stunning limestone cave in Southeastern Arizona that boasts world-class features. This “live” cave, discovered in 1974, is host to a wide variety of unique minerals and formations. Water percolates from the surface and calcite formations continue to grow, including stalactites dripping down like icicles and giant stalagmites reaching up from the ground. Tour guides will unveil this fascinating underground landscape during a memorable 1½ hour tour. We did this trip last year, but this time we’ll do a different tour.

Many of the formations you will see have been continuously growing for tens of thousands of years.

Karchner has been designated an International Dark Sky Park, defined as a public land possessing an exceptional or distinguished quality of starry nights and a nocturnal environment that is specifically protected for its scientific, natural, educational, cultural heritage, and/or public enjoyment.”

**Hosted by Cliff Busick**

**Send \$100 deposit made out to Airventurers to Judy Rifkin at**

**29630 Ridgeway Dr., Agoura Hills 91301**

**or reserve on line**

# HOT DOG! IT'S BBQ TIME!

SATURDAY, July 21st

10:00— 3:00

**FREEDOM PARK** at CMA

This is an all-you-can-eat extravaganza for all who **RSVP!** Bring your kids, grand-kids, friends and dogs! Everybody's welcome as long as you **RSVP,** and it's **FREE!**

Tony Samojan is running this, and he's doing things a bit differently this year. **THE PICNIC WILL BE CATERED** by the Stonefire Grill, so **YOU MUST RSVP!**

**RSVP** at [Airventurers.org](http://Airventurers.org) or to [mrifkin397@aol.com](mailto:mrifkin397@aol.com)

More later on food choices.

**AND DID I MENTION THAT IT'S FREE?**



# Confusion Hill?

Home of the Rare, Elusive  
**CHIPALOPE**

*Limited to  
14 people*

**IS SEEING BELIEVING?**

*Revised Flier*

**AIRVENTURERS 1 - NIGHT FLY - IN  
NEW DATE, SATURDAY - SUNDAY AUGUST 25 - 26, 2018**

 **FLY INTO UKIAH AIRPORT (KUKI)**

- > About 371 nautical miles direct from Van Nuys Airport
- > Arrive no later than 1:00 p.m.

 **SPEND THE NIGHT AT THE HOTEL**

- > Best Western Plus Humboldt House Inn, Garberville (707) 923-2771
- > About 92½ miles from Ukiah Airport

 **AFTER BREAKFAST, DRIVE TO CONFUSION HILL IN PIERCY, CA.**

- > About 17 miles from hotel
- > Spend about 1 - 2 hours there

 **LEAVE FOR UKIAH AIRPORT**

- > About 75½ miles from Confusion Hill
- > Maybe have lunch on the way

**Send full payment by August 1**

**(Payable to Airventurers) to:**

**Dan & Lorraine Simansky**

**17068 Burton St.**

**Van Nuys, CA 91406**

**(818) 344-7455**

**lasimansky@gmail.com**



**GRAVITY HOUSE**

Self-guided tour  
Experience optical contradictions & odd physical sensations that are truly confusing



**MOUNTAIN TRAIN RIDE**

38 steps up to it  
30 minute ride on 1¼ miles of track to top of hillside  
Uses unique Alpine switchback system



Ripley's Believe It or Not "World's Tallest Free Standing Redwood Chainsaw Carving"



Redwood Shoe House

**\$314.00/couple (\$323.69 with credit card)**

**\$251.00/single (\$258.81 with credit card)**

**NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 23RD**

**Let the Simanskys know by August 23rd if you need to cancel.**

**INCLUDES**

**Hotel                                      Hot Breakfast**  
**Transportation                      Wine & Cheese Reception**  
**Confusion Hill Attractions**

## A LITTLE HUMOR

How come abbreviated is such a long word?  
Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean when we use them?  
Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?  
Why do they call it a TV set when you only have one?  
Practice safe eating -- always use condiments.  
Shotgun wedding: A case of wife or death.  
A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.  
A hangover is the wrath of grapes.  
What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway.)  
A backward poet writes inverse.  
A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.  
A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.  
A lot of money is tainted. It taint yours and it taint mine.

**FREE**—ViewSonic computer monitor, model VG910S  
Works fine. Call Dave Snyder at 818-845-9962

## IMPORTANT DATES IN...

June	
8-10	Benson, AZ
24	Dinner Meeting
30	Board Meeting
July	
21	Club picnic
28	Board Meeting
August	
18	Board Meeting
25	Confusion Hill



Airventurers mourn the loss of Alex Hnarakis in May and extend our deepest sympathy to his wife Joette and family.



Airventurers who attended the May dinner meeting were privileged to hear Manny Antimisiaris speak about his job as the pilot of Sofia, the largest airborne observatory in the world.

*Photo courtesy of Harlis Brend*