

November 2015

# IAC38 NEWSLETTER

## President's Report



*IAC38 vice president and coach extraordinaire Dave Watson presents Beth with her 2014 California Point Series award*

### **Leap...**

***“Sometimes your only available transportation is a leap of faith.”– Margaret Shepard***

You know how you meet someone and instantly like them? That was how it was when I met Kim Furst. She immediately stuck me as genuine, warm, and well, just plain nice. Her exuberance is contagious.

Kim is the writer/director/producer of ‘Flying the Feathered Edge: the Bob Hoover Project.’ Since we met at a screening of the film at McClellan, we’ve been back and forth with notes at Oshkosh and ran into each other again at the Reno Air Races. Her film has been featured in almost every major aviation magazine except for EAA’s Sport Aviation. I thought we needed to do something about that.

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In October, Kim received word that she had won the Combs Gates award. The National Aviation Hall of Fame grants this prestigious award for aviation history research and preservation efforts. I thought this was a rather note-worthy angle of her story and pitched it to publisher Jim Busha. I got the green light. Since all paper magazine pages were accounted for in the foreseeable future, we decided to feature it in the weekly EAA eHotline newsletter. Kim was presented with the \$20,000 prize at the National Business Aviation Association conference in Las Vegas on November 18. The timing was perfect. The story went live on Thursday, November 19.

500 words is a tight constraint, so there were lots of things we talked about that did not make it into the article. Like how she walked away from a successful and lucrative career to strike out independently. Armed only with determination and a dream, she had no idea HOW she was going to make her story come to life. How she became pregnant halfway through the project and directed the filming at

the Smithsonian's Udvar-Hazy Center in Virginia from flat on her back in bed in California. How she had come full-circle: the young girl who devoured Air and Space magazine and attended summer camp at the Smithsonian was now filming there; chronicling the life of one of the greatest aviators the world has known.

Her bold leap of faith has led to places undreamed of a few years ago. This is how leaps of faith always work. You take that first step the path unfolds before you. She's met people, travelled places and has multitudes of options blossoming all around her. In the midst of creating both an award-winning documentary and a family, she's also been working on her pilot's license in fits and starts. She is determined to finally fulfill this dream; over the holidays, she's going to complete her training and get her ticket.

***"I haven't been everywhere but it's on my list." – Susan Sontag***

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## ***Determination and a Dream: Bob Hoover documentarian Kim Furst wins Combs Gates Award***

***By Beth E. Stanton***

**November 18, 2015** - Airplanes have always fascinated Kim Furst. Growing up in Leesburg, Virginia, she spent summers at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum. A favorite pastime shared with her dad was lying on the hood of the car parked at the end of the runway at National Airport watching airplanes taking off. Even though she came from a family of airplane buffs, Furst never considered aviation as something she could get involved in. "We didn't know any pilots so we never intersected with general aviation,"

she said. "We were more fans and spectators."

Furst knew she wanted to be a filmmaker. By "happy accident," she cut Burt Rutan's interview for a Discovery Channel program prior to him winning the Ansari XPRIZE. She later went on to edit the independent film *One Six Right*.

For years, that interview with Burt Rutan stuck with her. She explained, "There came a moment in my career when I needed to figure out what kind of stories I could wake up every morning excited to tell." Furst decided to strike

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out on her own. In 2011, as producer, writer, and director, she started a dream project: chronicling the story of Robert A. “Bob” Hoover. In a career spanning seven decades he influenced generations of pilots, and is considered by many to be our greatest living aviator. She was determined to preserve his historic achievements and commemorate the contributions of test pilots and veterans who put their lives at risk pushing the boundaries of aviation to make safe what we now take for granted.

Her film, *Flying the Feathered Edge: The Bob Hoover Project* hit a home run. This award winning film has met with universally positive response and has generated an enthusiastic fan base. Initial screenings were arranged through flying clubs and aviation associations. It

has crossed over from a purely “aviation realm” phenomenon to mainstream with two recent sold out screenings at AMC theaters. This past Veteran’s Day, the documentary was shown in 10 theaters nationwide. Promotion of the film has been a grass-roots effort. Word of mouth from fans has been the best advertising as people purchase the DVD and share it with their family and friends. Furst explained,

“We’ve don’t have big advertising dollars to take out ads, but we do have passion and people who love the movie.” Furst’s husband, Mark McPherson is director of social media. “It’s a family effort,” she said with a laugh. There are approximately 8,000 people on their e-mail list, [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#) followers. “Seven thousand people turned out to see the

film at AirVenture 2015 on opening night,” Furst said. “It’s an incredible experience that everyone cares about this story as much as I do.”

In October, Furst received word that she had won the Combs Gates award. The National Aviation Hall of Fame grants this prestigious award for aviation history research and preservation efforts. She was stunned. “It’s kind of mind blowing,” she said. This is a huge honor.” Hoover is delighted. “The



**Kim with some kind of, sort of, famous people at NBAA 2015.**

film captures my life story in an authentic and accurate way,” He said. “I don’t know how it could have been done any better.”

You can [follow](#) *Flying the Feathered Edge: The Bob Hoover Project* and [purchase the DVD](#) online. The trailer is also available on [YouTube](#): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzBiMQNc4tA>

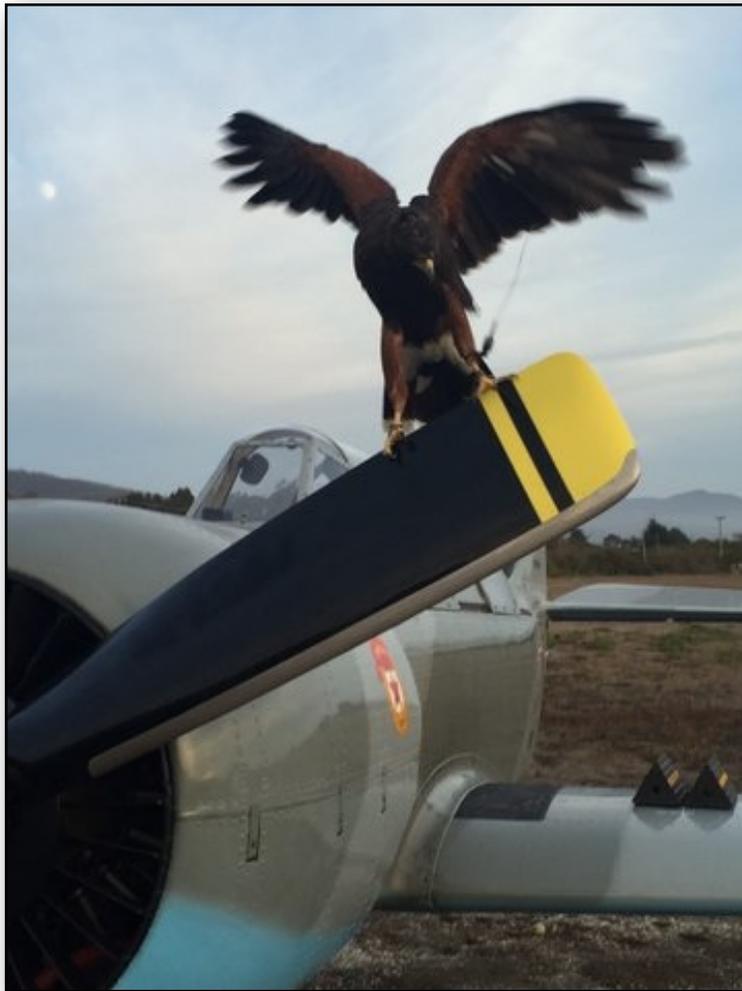
# ***IAC38 October Chapter meeting: Red October a raging success!***

Ross and Marian graciously hosted our IAC38 October meeting at the chapter coastal outpost of Half Moon Bay airport. Festivities spanned two days, one night with a myriad of activities: airplane ogling, a falcon, great food, pumpkin chunkin, movie night tucked under fur blankets, bonfire, breakfast at 3-Zero Café and whale-watching flights in the AirCam. We have such cool friends!



*(photos continued)*







*(photos continued)*



*(photos continued)*





***Guest speaker, Tim Redden, formation flying expert + Chapter elections***

***Sunday, November 22, 3pm, Attitude Aviation, KLVK***

IAC38 welcomes Tim Redden of the West Coast Ravens, a group of pilots from the western states who fly their RVs in formation at air show and other aviation events. They adhere to strict formation flying standards that were originally developed by the military and fly with a degree of discipline and precision that rivals any other realm of civilian aviation. The Ravens have shared the sky with the Thunderbirds and Blue Angels and performed in 2013 at EAA AirVenture, celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Vans aircraft.

Tim will share what it takes to master the art and skill of formation flying with symmetry, precision and grace. We will also learn more about civilian formation standards and communities that support formation flying and training.



## Third Annual IAC38 Holiday Party of Mayhem

Sunday, December 6, 2015

We'll avoid whiplash and concussions this year, but it's still going to be FUN. Our party, yet again, will be overflowing with *awesome*.

2-4 pm, Golfland, 1199 Jacklin Road, Milpitas, CA

- Gambling Mini golf (competition-style with betting!)
- Lazer tag
- Lazer maze

Followed by...

4:15, Dave and Busters, Great Mall, 940 Great Mall Drive, Milpitas, CA

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Join us for with either or both parts of this epic event. RSVP to [btheastanton@gmail.com](mailto:btheastanton@gmail.com) by November 29 to reserve your space.



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Milpitas



# *Another EAA Chapter Reached*



## ***Beth Stanton***

On October 28, I trekked to Buchanan Field in Concord to present at the EAA Chapter 393 meeting. I was warmly welcomed with a large turnout and an eager audience of about 40 pilots. It always amazes me when I speak to long-time pilots about unusual attitude and spin recovery training. The trepidation and downright fear of spins doesn't go away no matter how long a person has been flying. I'll continue to lead by example by telling my story: how I came to aerobatics totally unexpectedly by facing my fear of spins head-on. The confidence one gains through such training is invaluable. When I practiced inverted spins for the first time (with plenty of altitude and a coach on the ground) in the single-seat Lazer, I was absolutely confident that I could recover. It wasn't very pretty, but it was safe. Safety, people. And fun. In that order.

## ***Taurus Fey Wins Parachute Drawing Giveaway***

A former IAC38er generously donated his parachute to assist a new member starting out in aerobatics. Taurus already had the chute repacked and mailed to him. He's raring for his Sportsman competition debut in 2016!



***“A million thank-yous to the person who donated the parachute! I feel so lucky to have won the toss! Having this chute is going to help me reach my goal of competing for the first time next season! Thank you from the bottom of my heart!”***

# The (Re) Making of a Skybolt Dream! – Part 2

*By David Manuel*

In The (Re) Making of a Skybolt Dream! – Part 1, I shared SkyBatics' vision to partner with a local High School District in Silicon Valley to create a dynamic STEM-focused aircraft-building program (likely incorporating the Steen Skybolt). At the time of that writing in April, SkyBatics had only just incorporated as a non-profit in the state of California. In many ways, the SkyBatics dream in April was still just that – a dream. There were no Board of Directors, connections, partnerships, funding, or IRS tax-exempt approval. However, in the six months since Part 1 was published, much has changed.

Immediately after incorporating in March, Chris Bledsoe, SkyBatics' Secretary and life-long friend, and I began the task of creating a Board of Directors. Doing so was not easy, as several well-qualified candidates I had in mind had, well, other things in their minds. I asked Beth Stanton to consider joining the Board; she graciously (and I think reluctantly) declined (after "sleeping on it"), given her increasing workload and demand on her time with expanding roles and responsibilities locally, regionally and nationally. Beth did, however, represent SkyBatics at AirVenture 2015 in Oshkosh, and has been one MEGA-supporter and promoter of SkyBatics. And for her efforts and support, we are grateful!

I am so very proud of our leadership team; even humbled to lead this group of people. Four of us are pilots with various ratings. We are diverse and bring substantial academic and career experience and expertise to the table. SkyBatics' Board of Directors include:

- David Manuel, President
- Daniel Ruiz, Treasurer
- Ana Uribe-Ruiz, VP Program Development
- Chris Bledsoe, Secretary
- Kent Burke, Director at Large

After the Board was formed, I turned control of the organization over to the Board at our first meeting in May. We then began to focus on these three objectives: (1) complete IRS FORM 1023 and submit for federal tax-exempt status; (2) create a strategic partnership with at least one local High School District; and, (3) create a fund-raising program/campaign.

## **Airport Day...**

In June, Gretchen Kelly, San Carlos Airport Manager, invited SkyBatics to participate in the annual San Carlos Airport Day on June 27<sup>th</sup>. In preparation for the event, we had brochures printed, a banner made, and planned free give-a-ways and a drawing. We had a great time meeting the general public and talking about SkyBatics' plans; there was a lot of interest and many people signed up to receive additional information as our plans unfold and take shape.

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SkyBatics Booth at San Carlos' Annual Airport Day - 2015

Attacking objective one in June, we began the arduous task of completing the 501(c)(3) IRS FORM 1023 – a 31-page editable PDF document PLUS a 12-page supplemental attachment. After working on this document for over a month, our attorney submitted the paperwork to the IRS in July; expected wait time was estimated at between four and nine months (provided there were no parts of the application requiring clarification, correction, etc)!

## **The MetroED Connection...**

With objective two in mind in July, Ana was able to arrange a meeting with former colleague Erik Burmeister, Assistant Superintendent of the Menlo Park City School District. Meeting with Erik seemed to be our best shot at getting our foot in the door and creating an opportunity to partner with a local school district. And this is where the tables began to turn! Erik strongly suggested that we connect with MetroED in Santa Clara County and offered to provide a personal introduction to MetroED's Superintendent, Alyssa Lynch.

MetroED, located in San Jose, operates the Silicon Valley Career Technical Education (SVCTE) campus that serves six High School Districts and 35 High Schools in Santa Clara County. The faculty and students (High School Juniors and Seniors) at MetroED are remarkable - enthusiastic and passionate about their respective programs. The 29 current programs range from Accounting and Financial Careers to Veterinary Assisting, including Carpentry, Film and Video Production, Fire Science/First Responder, Forensic Investigation, Health Occupations, Internet Engineering and Truck Mechanics. However, noticeably absent from the 13 career sectors were any offerings related to aviation.

In September, Ana and I met with MetroED's Allyssa Lynch, Superintendent, and Jodi Edwards-Wright, Director of Instruction and Accountability. By the end of our meeting, we had established a  
*(continued)*

conditional partnership, based on the successful completion of a feasibility study that supports moving forward! Ana and I had to contain ourselves from commencing a jumping high-five in the parking lot, but we probably should have busted one out anyway. Our meeting exceeded our expectations and we're grateful to have such an incredible partnership opportunity. This is HUGE for SkyBatics!



SkyBatics' David Manuel, President and Ana Uribe-Ruiz, VP of Program Development at SVCTE Campus

The following week, Alyssa began working with the California Department of Education (CDE) in Sacramento to promote SkyBatics and adding our aviation program (specifically STEM-focused instruction and hands-on construction of an airplane) to their current line-up of program offerings, possibly as early as the start of the 2016-17 academic school year. We have also begun to form an Academic Advisory Committee to steer the creation of an academic program approved by the CDE and each of the High School Districts that MetroED serves.

In early October, we received very good news from our attorney; the IRS granted SkyBatics 501(c) (3) federal tax-exempt status, shortening our expected four- to nine-month wait to only 10 weeks! The document was date-stamped September 30<sup>th</sup>. SkyBatics can now accept tax-deductible donations, fully expecting that the State of California will follow the IRS and grant us tax-exempt status at the state level (pending approval, of course).

### **Outreach to AOPA...**

Also in October, Ana arranged for yet another meeting (Ana's the Make-a-Meeting-Happen Guru!) with AOPA's Stephanie Kenyon, VP of Strategic Philanthropy and John Morrison, Director of Development Western Region. Stephanie and John happened to be in the San Francisco Bay Area, so the timing was perfect. Over lunch, we were able to share about SkyBatics, our vision, and the progress we've made thus far. Eager to learn about and help SkyBatics, Stephanie and John offered insights and a willingness to provide resources and connections nationally that will help to advance our efforts.

As we move forward, we are turning our immediate attention to building a website, creating a 3-minute promotional video, and ramping up fundraising efforts (our slightly-delayed third objective). Nearing completion on the design work for a formal financial Presentation Deck, we anticipate launching our more targeted fundraising efforts early next year. We also plan to incorporate crowd-funding on Indiegogo as a part of our fundraising efforts and strategy. In the meantime, we ask you to consider making a direct contribution to SkyBatics.

We cannot wait to get this program fully developed, up and running, and having high school students building the Steen SkyBolt. For more information, questions about donating or other inquiries, please contact Chris Bledsoe, SkyBatics' Secretary at [info@SkyBatics.org](mailto:info@SkyBatics.org), or David Manuel at [David@SkyBatics.org](mailto:David@SkyBatics.org). By the way, you can also follow/like us on Facebook and Twitter ([www.Facebook/SkyBatics.com](http://www.Facebook/SkyBatics.com) and @SkyBatics). We appreciate your support and look forward to more good news in Part 3!



# ***EAA FOUNDER'S INNOVATION PRIZE***

***By Sean Elliott, EAA VP of Advocacy/Safety***

We're reaching out to the board of directors to help grow involvement in the Founders Innovation Prize competition, which is one of the major initiatives for EAA in the coming year. During discussions with the board's Safety Committee earlier this month, EAA staff had shared the significant outreach to the overall EAA and aviation communities to bring visibility to the contest, and also to more targeted media such as those in the innovator, technology and innovator fields. We need your help to achieve a wider reach.

Our initial communications efforts were very broad brushstrokes to get word of the Founders Innovation Prize to the public. We're now moving to the next stage, which is to invite individuals who might be interested to participate in the contest. In making that invite, two key points regarding the FIP are: 1) This competition is not biased by a single type of solution. It could be hardware, software, training, or better yet something none of us have thought of! 2) This is not a single year activity. The FIP will have its first iteration of competitors in 2016, but each year subsequently will continue to host a new round of competition. Only the focus on the issue may change as significant strides are made on the current theme.

More information and the official rules can be found here:

[http://www.eaa.org/en/aaa/aaa-news-and-aviation-news/aaa\\_founders\\_innovation\\_prize](http://www.eaa.org/en/aaa/aaa-news-and-aviation-news/aaa_founders_innovation_prize)

We're asking each of you to consider if there are individuals you know who might have ideas that could impact loss-of-control accidents and be interested in entering. They can be from the aviation community, technology, or any background that might be interested in entering such a contest. If you know of someone, the EAA staff can certainly reach out to them and let them know about the contest and encourage them to enter. Any names and contact info can be sent to:

Sean Elliott, VP of Advocacy/Safety, [selliott@aaa.org](mailto:selliott@aaa.org) or [920-426-4886](tel:920-426-4886)

or

Dick Knapinski, Director of Communications, [dknapinski@aaa.org](mailto:dknapinski@aaa.org) or [920-426-6523](tel:920-426-6523)

We appreciate your input and help in making the Founders Innovation Prize contest a great success and an asset for aviation safety!

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**By Taurus Fey, IAC38**

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# IAC38 2015/16 Calendar

*(subject to updates and revisions, we'll keep you apprised each month)*

**November 22**, IAC38 chapter meeting, 3pm, Attitude Aviation, KLVK, guest speaker Tim Redden, formation flying expert with the West Coast Ravens + Chapter elections

**December 6**, IAC38 Holiday Party of Mayhem. Golfland and Dave & Busters, Milpitas

**January 24**, IAC38 chapter meeting

**February 28**, IAC38 chapter meeting

**March 26 or 27**, IAC38 chapter meeting, TCY critique day

**April 24**, IAC38 chapter meeting

**May 21 or 22**, IAC38 chapter meeting, TCY critique day

**June 2-4**, Coalinga Western Showdown, US Western Regional Championships

**July 24**, IAC38 chapter meeting

**August 27 or 28**, IAC38 chapter meeting, TCY critique day

**September 24 or 25**, IAC38 chapter meeting, TCY critique day

**October 23**, IAC38 chapter meeting

**November** – no meeting, Thanksgiving weekend

**December 4**, IAC38 Holiday Party of Mayhem

We are a very diverse group of people with a lot of interesting stories to be told, and I solicit your input. Submissions are welcomed. We're not trying to win a Pulitzer Prize here, so don't be intimidated by a perceived lack of writing skills. If you have a story, or an idea for one, please submit it! If you would like an article to be in the next issue please submit within the week following the monthly meeting.

Dave Williams, [dw370@comcast.net](mailto:dw370@comcast.net)



# 2015 aerobatics

## WESTERN REGIONAL CONTEST CALENDAR

3/26-3/28 | Borrego Springs Hammerhead Roundup | Borrego Springs Airport | L08 | CA

4/30-5/02 | Duel in the Desert | Apple Valley | APV | CA

5/28-5/30 | Coalinga Western Showdown | New Coalinga Municipal Airport | C80 | CA

6/25-6/27 | Apple Cup | Ephrata Municipal Airport | EPH | WA

7/17-7/18 | Cut Bank - Rocky Mountain Can/Am | Cut Bank International Airport | CTB | MT

8/12-8/15 | Beaver State Regional | Pendleton Regional Airport | PDT | OR

9/04-9/06 | Happiness Is Delano | Delano Airport | DLO | CA

9/11-9/12 | Apple Turnover | Ephrata Municipal Airport | EPH | WA

9/19-9/26 | U.S. National Aerobatic Championships | North Texas Regional | GYI | TX

10/8-10/9 | Borrego Akrofest | Borrego Springs Airport | L08 | CA

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***Proud sponsor of the 2015 California contest season***

**2014 IAC Chapter 38 team**

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Dave Watson, vice president

Howard Kirker, treasurer

Tom Myers, secretary

Directors: Chris Combs, Mike Eggen, Marian Harris

Webmaster/email list: Brett Goldsmith

Newsletter editor, Dave Williams

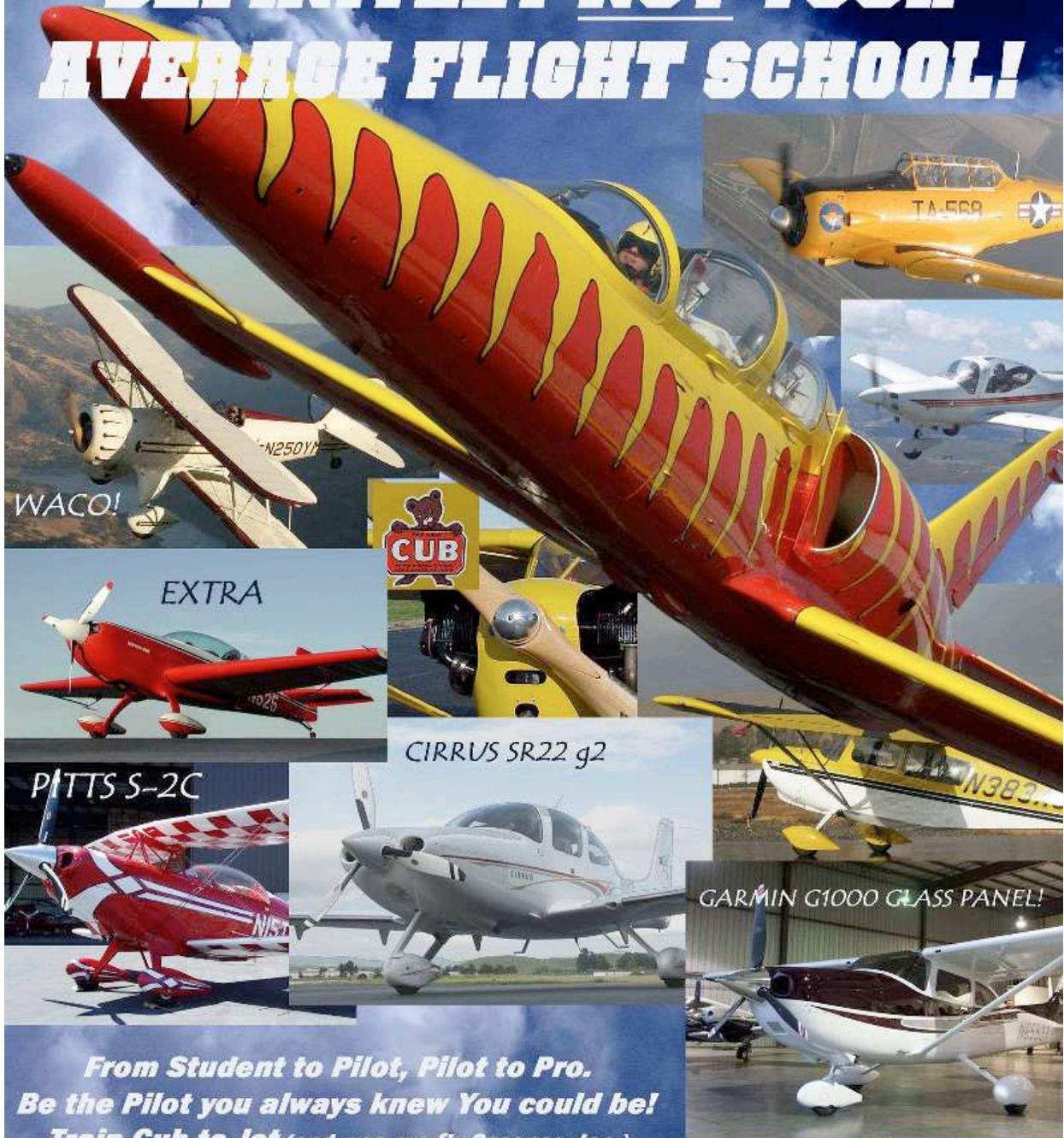
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# JOIN / RENEW

In addition to helping support all the activities of our chapter, IAC Chapter 38 membership is an insurance requirement if you want to fly in the box at Tracy for critique days. If you are receiving this newsletter and you know you need to get your membership updated, here are several ways to do it:

- sign up here for the International Aerobatic Club: <https://www.iac.org/roll-us-join-or-renew>
- sign up here IAC38 (using PayPal): <http://www.iac38.org>
- sign up at our next chapter meeting, we accept cash, check and credit card
- Fill out this form and mail it to Howard with your check:

<b>IAC Chapter 38 Membership Application/Renewal Form</b>	
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<b>Address:</b> _____ _____	
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<b>E-mail 1:</b> _____	<b>E-mail 2:</b> _____
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<b>Judge:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> National	
<b>Competition:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> None <input type="checkbox"/> Basic <input type="checkbox"/> Sportsman <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced <input type="checkbox"/> Unlimited	
<b>Aircraft:</b> _____	<b>N #:</b> _____
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Send with check, made payable to "International Aerobatic Club Chapter 38", to: <b>Howard Kirker, IAC38 Treasurer - 2279 Ocaso Camino - Fremont, CA 94539</b>	