



HIGH SIERRA FLYER

Newsletter of Sierra Chapter 403

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In Memoriam

Long-time members of EAA Sierra 403 chapter will fondly remember former members Jim and Jean Duensing. They were active in our chapter from the 1970s through the mid-2000s.

Jean was our regular griddle master for many pancake breakfasts, and Jim was an enthusiastic participant at almost every Young Eagle Rally, where his Corvette Yellow RV-4 was a big hit with the kids! Jim also belonged to the ancient and secret order of “Quiet Birdmen.”

Jean was a Carson City native, and she met Jim after World War 2 when he was stationed at Pickel Meadows with the USMC, where he taught Mountain Warfare to the flatlanders. Jim and Jean

were married in 1953 and lived in Carson City until their deaths in January 2021 (Jim) and February 2026 (Jean).

Jim’s main “day job” was as an Electrician in Carson City for 30 years, while Jean served as an Accountant for the state of Nevada.

In addition to the RV-4 that they built in their garage, Jim and Jean also owned a Cessna 152 and a Cessna 182, which they took to a variety of Fly-Ins over the years, including to the big EAA AirVenture at Oshkosh Wisconsin. Jean overcame some serious health challenges, including polio, but she persisted and became a pilot herself.

After Jim and Jean stopped flying, they sold their aircraft and started taking months-long road trips, towing a car behind a motorhome. Jim drove while

Jean navigated and kept detailed logs of their adventures. Their trips took them north to Canada and east to many historic Civil War battle sites.

A memorial service was held in March, and the family requested a donation to the American Cancer Society, a Veterans organization, any charitable organization for children, the ASPCA or any local animal shelter in lieu of flowers.



- PayPal: \$1,49723

Total cash accounts: \$81,735.69 (\$2,085 restricted for Ray Scholarship.)

IMC CLUB

The IMC Club meets on the third Thursday of every month at 1800 in the Chapter House. Tim Rowe leads the group.



From The Treasurer

The Chapter received a \$5,000 donation from Walter and Andrea Hobbs. This is the third year they've given such a donation. Please thank them when you seen them for their extraordinary support to the Chapter.

Balances as of 30 April:

- Wells Fargo Savings: \$72,373.82
- WF Checking: \$7,864.64

Thanks to our Volunteers!

Upcoming Events

Chapter member Sandy Munns has competed in the Hayward Air Rally for several years and says it's a lot of fun. He points out that it's also a great test of cross-country navigation and fuel management skills and includes a great banquet after the rally!

The poster features a blue sky background with a grid pattern. At the top left, '62nd' is written in large orange numbers with a red and white striped banner behind it. To the right, 'May 29-30 2026' is in white. Below this, 'HAYWARD AIR RALLY' is written in large white letters. A small yellow silhouette of a propeller plane is to the right of the '62nd'. In the center, a detailed image of a white and red propeller plane with registration 'N7212M' is shown. Below the plane, a map of California highlights the flight route from Mc Clellan (MCC) to Hayward (HWD). A green banner at the bottom left says 'Sport Pilots Welcome!' and a blue banner at the bottom right says 'Proceeds Support Aviation Scholarships'. On the right side, there are five bullet points describing the event. At the bottom right, there is contact information, a QR code, and a phone number.

62nd **May 29-30 2026**

HAYWARD AIR RALLY

- The 62nd annual Hayward Air Rally is a day of skill, aviation & fun!
- The Rally is a ~200-mile VFR cross-country challenge. It is NOT a speed event; fuel management and navigation skills determine your score in this one day event.
- After a day of flying enjoy socializing with your fellow pilots in the hospitality room followed by an awards banquet inside the Aerospace Museum of California.
- All types of piston aircraft are accepted. All certificated pilots, guests and students with instructors are welcome. A great opportunity to test your flying skills for prizes and trophies or just have fun and enjoy the camaraderie.
- Rally proceeds fund aviation related scholarships.

For more information visit:
www.hwdairrally.org

or call 530-621-1049

Sport Pilots Welcome!

Proceeds Support Aviation Scholarships

Call 530-621-1049 or go to www.hwdairrally.org for more information.

Another excerpt from Dayton Murdock's RV-4 build log...

Chapter 8 Fuselage

Section 8 Fuselage Date 12/23/2003

I started the fuselage by welding up the steel jig. I used 2"sq. tube with .090 wall thickness. Building the bulkheads and longerons is the first task to accomplish after the jig... The firewall is the first bulkhead to mount on the jig. After the locating the firewall the longerons are next with the rest of the bulkheads to follow. Everything is clamped in position including the floor webs and baggage ribs

(Image) 153,154 &156



All the parts clamped together are squired to the fixture (building jig.) then squired and aligned to each other. After this I riveted the bulkheads to the longerons and the webs and ribs to the bulkheads. The fuselage skeleton is ready for skin.



Section 8 Fuselage Date 3/1/2004

The builder manual instructs me to start skinning the fuselage with the most aft lower skin F427. I used plastic straps to hold it in place before drilling and clecoing. The next skin F426 uses the same technique of plastic strap and clamps to hold it before drilling and clecoing. The rear side skins are trimmed and installed next. (Image) 160,161&162

MEMBER CLASSIFIEDS

WANTED: Wooden propeller to fit the old Continental A65 engine that Jim Nunnelee's three young students are assembling. Any condition, any diameter, and any pitch is OK. Contact Jim Nunnelee at 775-790-1396.

FOR SALE: Rotax 914 MQ1 Predator Engine. \$17,500. This is a 2016 Drone Conversion by the U.S. Government. 135 to 140 hp. Logbook shows 362 hours.

FOR SALE: Ray Miller has a TOCSIN CO Cockpit Monitor for \$50. Call him at 775-225-0407 if interested.



FOR SALE: Replica World War 1 Fokker D-VIII kit project. Fuselage on gear. Kit includes fabric and initial paint. Asking \$7,000.



*Fokker D-VIII parasol monoplane, 1918.
Wikimedia Commons.*

For more information on the Rotax engine or the D-VIII kit, please call Ev Young at his home phone. 775-434-7424 (landline).

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Thanks to our Volunteers!

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Newsletter

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