



An Occasional
Newsletter
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Red Sky Aviation, LLC – Livermore’s Best Flying School!

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Where Flying Is Fun!

Red Sky Aviation Goes to School!

Red Sky Aviation recently hosted an Air School with Livermore’s Joe Michell K-8 school. Twelve students, from Kindergarten through 6th grade, attended a program at the school on Wednesday, May 8, where students learned the history and basic technology of flying. They built and flew gliders in the school’s Multi-Purpose Room to test their new knowledge. On Saturday, students and parents attended a two-hour session at Red Sky’s Hangar 135. The kids and parents were very enthusiastic as they enjoyed a rotational program featuring: a talk by our flight instructors on how to become a pilot; aviation videos including early flight and acrobatics; examining the airplanes, inside and out, to learn about the parts and controls; and watching flight activities on the runway. One parent, a former employee of the LVK Control Tower, arranged for the group to finish out their airport day with a Tower Tour! All in all, everybody had a great time! Red Sky Aviation, LLC, is happy to discuss options for special programs including clubs, schools, etc., at your location or at ours. Please call our office for information.



Congratulations from
Red Sky Aviation! 😊



Got My Pilot’s
License!

- Daren Putman Jian Zhou
- Evgeny Ivanov
- John Scott Sutherland
- David Thompson

How About that Champ?!

Radio in, interior nearly done, windows fitted and prepping to install –once the windshield is in, the wings go on!

Red Sky Aviation is a family-owned and operated Flight School. We provide private, sport, instrument, and commercial pilot training, rent aircraft, offer classes, restore antique and classic aircraft, and provide pre-sale aircraft consultation. Our family has, collectively, over 150 years of aviation experience! We love what we do and hope you will be part of our aviation family!

PETE ELTGROTH

doesn't have a favorite airplane—he likes them all! He has been on Red Sky's Flying Team since 2006, when a friend working on a homebuilt tailwheel aircraft sought instruction at Red Sky Aviation to get his Private Pilot's License and Pete joined us to teach his friend.

Pete started his life's journey in Baltimore, Maryland, and moved with his family to California in 1950. He attended high school in Burbank, then earned a Bachelor's degree in Physics at CalTech in 1962. A Ph.D. in Physics/ Astrophysics followed at Harvard University in 1966, then he took a Postdoctoral appointment at the Houston Space Center in 1966-67. He joined Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) in 1967 as a research scientist. Pete married "Betsy" (Lisbeth) in 1967 and they have been blessed with three children: Alicia, Selene, and David.



Pete enjoyed full funding for his graduate studies and used some of his resources to learn to fly at the MIT Flying Club. At Harvard, Pete says, you were expected to own your own aircraft! Pete earned his pilot's license in 1965 and became a Flight Instructor (CFI) in 1967. After earning his CFI, he went on to earn his Airline Transport Pilot license in 1972.

Pete has had an extremely illustrious science career, working primarily in various fields of Physics. In the early 2000's he became Director of the Center for Applied Scientific Computing (CASC) at LLNL, an elite technical organization specializing in applying powerful computers to incredibly large scale and complex problems. He worked there until his retirement in 2006.

When not working in Physics or flying, Pete and Betsy enjoy world travel. They have been mountain climbing through North America, including Alaska where Pete was a Bush Pilot for awhile. They are also eclipse chasers throughout the Americas, the Mediterranean, and China. Pete has played badminton competitively for years, is nationally ranked, and attends tournaments all over the world.

Pete has over 10,000 flight hours and really enjoys instructing student pilots in everything from taildraggers to technically advanced aircraft.

He likes teaching 'Flying 101', that is hands-on teaching, where it matters the most. He enjoys this much more than classroom teaching! He likes the 'multiplier' effect, like teaching airline pilots, because they in turn fly many others. He feels strongly that it is important to do a good job of teaching and notes that people have different strengths and learn in different ways, which Pete finds very interesting. He has observed that young students absorb information like a sponge, and that students who have an interest in a sport connect more easily to the physical aspects of flying. Professional people like engineers are excellent with the numbers part of flying and less comfortable with the physical aspects. He has noted that more recently students are highly motivated to fly, yet don't care as much for the homework!

Back to Pete's favorite airplane, he says it depends on what you are wanting to do! For a single engine aircraft, Pete likes either the Cessna 180 or 182 (one has wheels in the right place and one has them in wrong place!). He says they can handle almost anything, are economical and reliable (though he says the 182 breaks more easily!) For a wild ride, though, we encourage you to schedule a ride with Pete in his Extra 200!



Red Sky Aviation announces: Flight Training Financing!

Dreaming of flying but have nightmares over the costs? Red Sky Aviation announces a new partnership with Pilot Finance, Inc. Student pilots can finance their instruction costs up front, then pay at their own pace. Red Sky student Eddie De Coito says of his arrangement with Pilot Finance, Inc., “if it wasn’t for the financing, I wouldn’t be able to take flying lessons!” The set-up process is pretty easy, the finance company sends you all the information and will walk you through the steps to complete the paperwork. Eddie filled out the forms, estimated the overall cost with his instructor, went through a credit check and was approved! He has been working hard and will soon complete his Private Pilot’s License! There is sure to be a payment plan that fits each student’s needs. It is easy to make a single monthly payment, while continuing a pace of flying lessons that will ensure retention of the information and success in earning your license! Eddie says “Don’t let the cost hinder your dream!” Look for information on Flight Training financing in the Red Sky Aviation office.



Congratulations

Ground School Graduates!

Daniela Wardlaw James Wardlaw
John Vallor Eddie De Coito
Toby Switek Charlie Bellenie
Mark Heidenreich, Instructor



Our LVK Partners

A Series of Introductions to the Folks Who Keep our Airport Running Smoothly!



Angela Hescher – Accounting Technician

Angela describes herself as “the lucky person who sends out invoices and posts payments!” She has worked at LVK for 7 ½

years and really enjoys working with the people here. Though she doesn’t have an aviation background, she likes hearing the the tenant’s stories and thinks Livermore has pretty nice tenants. Her biggest job is preparing the airport budget which is on a 2-year cycle. She recently completed the mid-term update which results in a proposal to the Livermore City Council for rent increases, based on the Consumer Price Index for Urban Areas. Angela’s family includes her husband and daughter. Her hobbies are camping, boating and biking and she rides her bike about 8 miles to work everyday. Angela’s request—please pay your hangar rent on time! It makes her job easier. We invite our Red Sky customers to stop by the Terminal during the week and thank Angela for her service to the airport!

Tyler Jorgensen – Field Maintenance Aid

Tyler has worked at LVK for almost 2 years. His job includes fueling aircraft, removal of debris from



runways, escorting people to hangars, manning the office, bird control, etc. His favorite work is interacting with the LVK airport tenants. Tyler is from an aviation family and has been flying his whole life. He has had his Private Pilot’s License for two years and flies a Cessna 150 and a Piper J-3 Cub. Tyler attends Gavilan Junior College in Gilroy where he is working on his Airframe & Powerplant License. He will complete his studies in 1 ½ years and then hopes to work as an A&P in corporate aviation. Tyler keeps us at Red Sky in aircraft fuel on the weekends, and happily enjoys our homebaked cookies – his favorite? Susan’s Blond Brownies. Thanks for supporting the LVK family, Tyler!

Recent Solos! – Way to Go!

Yoni Shchemlinen

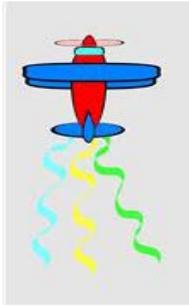
Jian Zhou

Jared Harper

Eddie De Coito

Toby Switek Brian Lippo

Laura Armye Charlie Bellenie



New Red Sky Students – Welcome!

Jared Harper

Eddie DeCoito

Vlad Rodeski

Laura Armye

Kyle Lark

Samuel Kigozi

Chris Welch

Toby Switek

Daniela Wardlaw

James Wardlaw

Gregg Harrang

Jarret LaFleur

Raj Raina



New Pilot Jian Zhou and Examiner Vince Nastro!

From our Red Sky Family Album!



Jared Harper Solo in 140 with Pete!

Did You Know...?

Red Sky Aviation bought Almost \$36,000 in fuel from the City of Livermore last year! We like to keep those Fuel Guys busy! 😊



Please note: Any omissions or errors to student pilot lists in this newsletter are all Susan's fault! Please advise us if you were left off an important milestone list and we'll include you next time! :o



Bob at National Air and Space Museum Paul Garber Facility in 1986. Little did he know that Susan was working in the NASM Archives one building over! They didn't actually meet until 1988 though.