



An Occasional  
Newsletter  
No. 4  
September 2014

## Red Sky Aviation, LLC – Livermore’s Best Flying School!

333 W Jack London, Hangar 135, Livermore, CA 94551

Phone (925) 294-9703 - Fax (925) 294-9803 - [www.redskyaviation.com](http://www.redskyaviation.com)

# Where Flying Is Fun!

## THE CHAMP IS BACK!!!



You have all waited so patiently!  
We are happy to announce that N3675E, Aeronca 7AC Champ, is back in the air after over two years of rebuilding from the ground up. She’s bright yellow and orange and very shiny! We’d love to put you in the sky is this special lady – so call for your checkout ride soon!



**Congratulations from  
Red Sky Aviation! 😊**

**Got My Pilot’s License!**



- Jake Armstrong**
- Charlie Bellenie**
- Eddie De Coito**
- Nikolai Morozov**
- Toby Switek**
- Chuck Oliveras**
- Adam Bienenstock**

**Got My Instrument Rating!**

- Dan Dujmovich**
- Ranjan Kanthi**



\*\*\*\*\*

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!

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

**Richard Robbins** likes just about everything about the outdoors, and especially loves to fly! Born in San Francisco and raised in San Pablo and Richmond, he and wife Rebecca now live in Stockton, with his daughter and granddaughter right next door.

Rick served in the Air Force in radar operations in Kansas and Missouri, but came right back to California after leaving the military. Our California weather helps contribute to the practice of his many outdoor interests which, in addition to flying, include: skydiving, kayaking, snowshoeing, sailing, motorcycle riding, and shooting black powder events. When not flying, he also works as a Respiratory Therapist. Rick is a great fan of all things Scottish and is a regular attendee and participant in Scottish Highland Games; he reports that kilts are extremely comfortable!

Rick has been flying since 1961. He is especially fond of Aeronca aircraft, having earned his license in a 1952 Aeronca 7EC. His favorite airplane is the 7AC Champ and he is really looking forward to getting out there in our newly refurbished Champ and teaching new students the joy of flying.

Rick gets excited about what he calls the “ah- ha moments” when student pilots realize they are flying or landing on their own and can really do it themselves! When teaching students basic flying principles and skills, Rick feels that every day is fresh. He loves that feeling and it keeps him going. Rick’s favorite quote from a student pilot is, “Do you realize there are people down there who have no idea what they’re missing?!”



In addition to teaching private and commercial pilot students, Rick also has taught skydiving and still serves as a skydiver ‘driver’ (pilot) and as a tow plane pilot for gliders. He flies for the Northern California Soaring Association of Byron, which is always looking for tow pilots.

When Rick started flying, he could only afford to take one lesson per month, so it took him awhile to complete his training. He reminisces about paying his flight instructor \$1.25 per hour and renting an aircraft in 1973 for \$5.00 per hour wet! He has tons of aviation stories and loves to tell these to his students because he feels they are helpful for students in their learning and understanding. He especially feels the stories help students understand that others have gone through similar training experiences and that, although they may not get something the first time, they will succeed with practice. He is a great believer in learning the basics of flight. Once new pilots know the basics, they can move into almost any other type of aircraft and “just fly the airplane...”. Inspired by sunset flying, Rick loves to imagine being “a stanza in some cosmic poem!”



# Congratulations Ground School Graduates!

Mark Heidenreich & Pete Eltgroth, Instructors

## Class 1- 2014

Paul Connell	Pete Connell
David Gofman	Keith Lester
Stuart Mulvany	Daniel Ramirez
Rut Tabcum	

## Class 2 – 2014

Michael Torrence	Baxter Eldridge
Stuart Humphreys	Alan Graver
Carlos Avalle	Jordan Kretz
Ali Salehifar	Jason Guan
Dmitry Spasibenko	Alex Sims

Private Pilot's Ground School is a service periodically offered by Red Sky Aviation to help prepare our flight students for the written examination required for a Private Pilot's Certificate. The six-week course meets one evening per week. Course material reviews the topical areas covered on the exam. Students complete practical flight planning exercises and tour the LVK Control Tower where they learn about airport communications. While aviation students can prepare for the written exam through self-study or online courses, our students report that having that classroom experience with a knowledgeable Certified Flight Instructor helped them to better understand the material. If you are interested (or know someone who might be) in Ground School, please call our office. We compile an interest list and notify people when the next class is scheduling.



## Our LVK Partners

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

### Brett Gregory – Airport Service Attendant



Ostrom Photo,  
Used with Permission

Brett's initial mechanical interests was in British cars, but he soon saw the light and moved on to something really important! He served as an aircraft mechanic in the Air Force from 1988-1992, then in the Reserves from 1992-97. He earned his Private Pilot rating in 1992 and started working at the Livermore Airport the same year, staying until 1997. His next adventure was teaching guitar full time from 1997-2008, after which he returned to LVK. Brett loves the small town feel of the pilot community at LVK, and considers it a privilege to be here. His favorite part of the job is firing the "bird banger" to scare birds off the runway! Brett is that friendly voice on the phone when you call for the fuel truck on the weekend! He always has a smile and a friendly greeting, as well as a wave from his bike when he leaves at the end of another day. Brett and wife Tina are celebrating 21 years of marriage and have two sons, aged 16 and 13. Thanks for all your friendly support Brett!

### Justin Drinkwater – Operations Supervisor



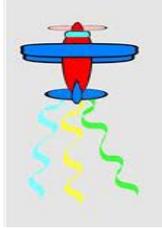
You can thank Justin for all those other nice people working on the field at LVK!

Justin's job includes recruitment, hiring, training and supervising both full-time and part-time Airfield Attendants at LVK. He is responsible for fueling operations, hangar clean-out, and maintenance of the airfield. Interestingly, Justin's first Livermore career was as a Park and Recreation Administrator. He is a Certified Arborist and has a B.S. degree in Horticulture and Landscape Management. When the parks department in Livermore downsized, LVK was lucky enough to pick up Justin for our airport team. Justin was no stranger to aviation, his father worked for Boeing for 40 years and as a youth he worked in the Aviator Store for his sister at Boeing Field in Seattle. Justin's sister is a pilot and he hopes one day to complete his Private Pilot's certificate. Justin says his favorite part of the job at LVK is the people who are very interesting to meet and work with. In his spare time, Justin enjoys outdoor activities such as fishing and camping with his wife and two sons, aged 6 and 8.

**Recent Solos! – Way to Go!**

Wyndell Roussell  
Daniela Wardlaw  
Chuck Oliveras  
James Wardlaw  
David Gofman  
Vladimir Khosid

Chris Welsh  
Mudit Srivastava



**New Red Sky Students – Welcome!**

<i>Eric Doshi</i>	<i>Daniel Ramirez</i>
<i>Rut Tabcum</i>	<i>Brandin Bear</i>
<i>Stuart Mulvany</i>	<i>Venkat Vardhingni</i>
<i>David Gofman</i>	<i>Lorenzo Carver</i>
<i>Fritz Lam</i>	<i>Vladmir Khosid</i>
<i>Adam Bienenstock</i>	<i>Ben Chipman</i>
<i>Venkatesha Murthy</i>	<i>Dmitry Spasibenko</i>
<i>Paul Connell</i>	<i>Mike Foster</i>
<i>Moazzem Chowdhury</i>	<i>Jennifer Hicks</i>
<i>John "Tad" Schwartz</i>	<i>Jason Guan</i>
<i>Mike Torrence</i>	<i>Alan Graver</i>
<i>Ricky Arslanian</i>	<i>Nick Dujmovich</i>
<i>Jordan Kretz</i>	<i>Duke Fuller</i>
<i>Victor Doubrovne</i>	<i>Sean Ko</i>



Almost-New-Pilot Toby Switek at Orals with Examiner Vince Nastro!

\*\*\*\*\*

*From our Red Sky Family Album*



We miss you Sam!



*Our French Friends, Romain and Pierre – we enjoyed their company in November 2013*

Pierre and Romain came from France to building flying hours because it is so much more economical to fly here than in their home country. We really liked getting to know them. Our international customers add a wonderful experience for all of us here at Red Sky! Welcome!

**Did You Know...?**  
**Thanks to YOU! Our loyal students, rental pilots and instructors, business is UP 27% over last year. Thank you! We appreciate you! ☺☺☺ Remember—bring in a friend to start lessons—after their 3<sup>rd</sup> lesson you get 1 hour of free flying time!**