



January 2007

# **PROPWASH**

*Newsletter of the San Luis Obispo Pilots Association*

## **HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### **Board of Directors**

President	John Eichler	550-7337
Vice President	Tim Williams	441-6093
Secretary	Frank Freitas	441-5817
Treasurer	Keith Godfrey	801-2361
Newsletter Editor	Bruce Brown	474-1408
Director	Elizabeth Dinan	545-8663
Director	John Ziegler	450-1455



### **President's Post'its:**

All SLOPA members and friends;

Thank you for a good year. We lost a valued member of the flying community this year, yet you all stepped in to make our organization and the Airport Day a memorable set of events.

Now is the time we pick to hand off the leadership and responsibilities of the board and greet the New Year. You have a hard working board in place and a couple of us are stepping down, taking a more behind the scenes role. If you are interested in working with the board, please contact any of the board members.



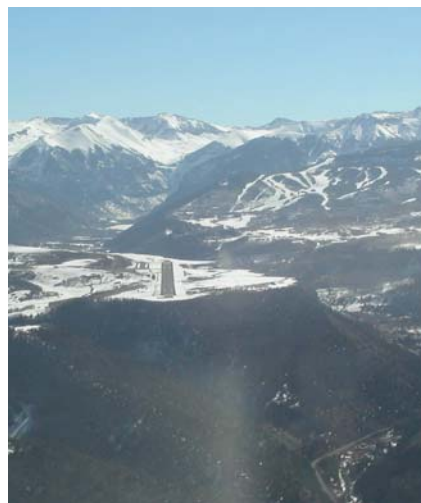
There are some strong moves between the three flying organizations to join forces in making '07 a bigger and better year for General Aviation in San Luis Obispo. There was a joint meeting of representatives from the EAA Chapter 170, SLOPA, and 99's in December to discuss ideas for this next year. Some of the idea's floating around will be brought to you by the various club leaders as soon as they are ironed out. Cheryl Cooney was the first to step out and agree to meet with a few others this month to start the planning for next year.

Thank you,

John Eichler

## From the Editor's Desk

Under the heading "better late than never," I would like to introduce the members of the SLOPA Board of Directors for 2006. As John mentioned, there will be a couple of changes, and/or vacancies, which will be announced in the near future. With John's leadership, the SLOPA Board of Directors really got some great momentum going in 2006. And 2007 promises to be even more productive, beginning with a SLOPA Board meeting Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at 9am at The Spirit of San Luis, followed by an Airport Day meeting at 10am. All interested parties are highly encouraged to attend, as your input is always appreciated. In fact, it is the participation of the SLOPA general membership that will ultimately keep this momentum going. So, please, look for ways to get involved. Here's to 2007, with a huge thank you for the board of 2006.



John Eichler – President

John soloed under the tutelage of Col. Oscar Bayer in 1976, and has been enjoying every aspect of flying, and general aviation, ever since. He has owned several planes, and currently enjoys cross-country flights in his Maule with his wife, and "kinda-willing co-pilot," Kathy. In 2006, John contributed immensely to our local general aviation as President of SLOPA, EAA ch.120 Vice President, and Director of the San Luis Obispo Airport Day. His efforts are greatly appreciated.

Tim Williams – Vice President

Like many of us, Tim was hooked on flying at an early age. "My uncle is a pilot, and he took me flying at age six. That flight created my first 'dream' of one day becoming a pilot." Tim received his private pilot certificate in May of 2004 and purchased a Cherokee 140. He plans on pursuing his IFR and commercial ratings, then upgrading to a complex aircraft. "My new dream is to someday start a new business that involves aviation." Tim is founder and CFO of Digital West Networks, Inc., an internet hosting, collocation and access provider business in San Luis Obispo.



Frank Freitas – Secretary

Though this has been his first year of serving on the SLOPA executive boards, Frank has been a member for eleven years, about as long as he has had his private pilots license. Frank loves to fly, and during his breaks from his duties as San Luis Obispo County Treasurer, Tax Collector and Public Administrator, he is enjoying flights to such places as Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming in his Piper Cherokee 180D. "It's a great plane." He boasts. "It just needs new paint, new interior, and a new engine."

Keith Godfrey – Treasurer

With 2000 plus hours, Keith has been a pilot for over sixteen years, and holds COM, IFR, and MEL ratings. After flying a Comanche 180 for ten years, he now flies an Aero Commander 500B (N7AC) which fits his family needs just perfectly. Keith is semi-retired from business, where he has been an engineer, entrepreneur and CFO in manufacturing and international distribution. Keith lives in San Luis Obispo with his wife, Kathy, also a private pilot, and their two children.



Bruce Brown – Propwash Editor

Bruce has had his head in the clouds most of his life, yet didn't earn his PPL till 2003. "I started flying lessons years ago while working as an air traffic controller in the Air Force, but, regrettably, didn't stay with it." He's ready to make up for lost time, and is always looking to ride along and share expenses. Bruce is a freelance copywriter and broadcast advertising producer living in Grover Beach. His business web site is [www.flyingbruce.com](http://www.flyingbruce.com).

John Ziegler – Director

After graduating from Cal Poly in 1988 with a degree in Industrial Technology, John spent a number of years in Southern California working in the packaging industry. But he always longed to return to San Luis Obispo. "My dream finally became a reality in 2005, when I started Aerobrite, a professional aircraft cleaning service." Currently operating out of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara, John plans to expand his business into Paso Robles, Santa Maria, and Santa Ynez. "My efforts with SLOPA are to share my passion for general aviation with our community here on the Central Coast."



Elizabeth Dinan – Director

Elizabeth also became hooked on flying at an early age. "For my 8<sup>th</sup> birthday, I told my dad to forget the party, cake and presents. All I want is to go flying." And she did. She later received her PPL at Glendale's Grand Central Airport and continued, onward and upward, to earn her COM, CFI, Instrument, CFII, MEI, ATP and seaplane ratings. "I love flight instructing, especially basics. As I always feel that I have helped someone get their wings for some wonderful adventures."

**Aviation Ads**

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Located at the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport, the Spirit is at the center of activity for area business, aviation, families and travelers who love its friendly atmosphere and great food. Sit on the patio and watch the world come and go by air, or inside where a century of aviation history decorates the walls. Breakfast, Lunch or Dinner, anytime is great to get "the Spirit".

925 Airport Drive, San Luis Obispo, CA. 805-549-9466.

Hours M-Sa 7am-8pm, Sunday 9am-8pm



Please send articles, story ideas and comments to Propwash Editor, Bruce Brown at [Propwash@slopilots.com](mailto:Propwash@slopilots.com), or call Bruce at 474-1408.

***San Luis Obispo Pilots Association***

**www.slopilots.org**

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