

AYA 2017 Convention, Paso Robles, CA

Daily Coverage



Elephant Seal rookery on the coast just north of San Simeon on Highway 1 west of Paso Robles. The bus tour to Hearst Castle went by this area.





Six airplanes were on the ground by Saturday evening.



Early morning on the Pacific coast.



The CHP is keeping an eye on us...



Monday morning flight line, 18 planes on the airport and more coming.



An astronomically catastrophic view of a Grumman trying to land in a big hole. Kelly Wallace and Riva Neame in their Tiger (N28250) flying past Meteor Crater, Arizona. Taken by yours truly, Ni, from Ron Levy's aerobeast (N22RL) on our way to the Paso Robles Annual AYA Convention 2017. No aliens were harmed in the taking of this picture! I promise.



The Welcome Reception and Firsttimers Welcome were held at the Estrella Warbird Museum.



Cliff Daugherty and Bob Hess handled the Firstimers introductions.



The Calcutta Auction was lead by Bill Daly and auctioneer Scott Sanders. Over \$6,000 was raised for the AYA Scholarship Fund this convention. Way to go everyone.



Tuesday morning saw about 39 planes on the ground.



Paso Robles resident and Firsttimer Tony Gaspar taxis out for the flying events.



The spectators for the flying events had premium seating this year.
You could almost taste the flour in the air...



The Flour Bombing judges Bill and Cindy Daly, Jerry and Mary Ann Stanton and AYA Scholarship recipient Zackary Wells.

Below, the line was good, just a bit long. Right, below, line was a tad wide but the spectators got a clear view of the plane...





You know how they tell you the safest place to stand during the Flour Bombing is the middle of the target...maybe not so much, especially if you are not watching the competitors. We are hoping Jerry will be OK.



This looks like a pretty good shot at winning...to the right not so much.



The Spot Landing team of Joe Gugel, John and Lily Klapp and Steve Peach.





The new Wing Nut Toss event was highly competitive. We had a three-way toss off to decide the eventual winner. Matilda Davis was first up and showed admiral style. Next up was the Youngest Pilot at convention, John Klapp. He had his own unique style. The eventual winner, Joe Gugel, to the right, shows his smooth and steady style. This was the highest participant event this year.





The Grumman Limbo and Precision Taxi team consisted of Barb Hanson, Joel Williams, Stew Wilson, Bill Marvel and Riva Neam.



Close but no glass of wine, better job to the right.



In keeping with our past themes which reflect the local area this year the Precision Taxi targets were bunches of grapes. We thought we could squeeze a few grapes and have fun in the process. Unfortunately not many grapes got squeezed...





Scott Sanders put on a great show, pushing the bounds on first one wing tip, then the other. He finally succumbed to the skill and tenacity of three(?) time winner Kat Wells.





Tuesday Evening was the Member Meeting. VP Graham Smith gave an overview of the Board meeting, the Editor, ESD, Secretary/ Treasurer and Scholarship reports were presented and there was a quick tour of the new AYA website.



An AYA Fashion Show of past convention t-shirts was a lot of fun. Where available the convention chair presented their t-shirts.





A prized possession, a quilt made from convention t-shirts, from a previous convention was donated back to the Scholarship Auction to raise funds. An additional \$275 was raised for the AYA Scholarship Fund. Thanks to everyone who donated and purchased auction items.



More convention t-shirts.



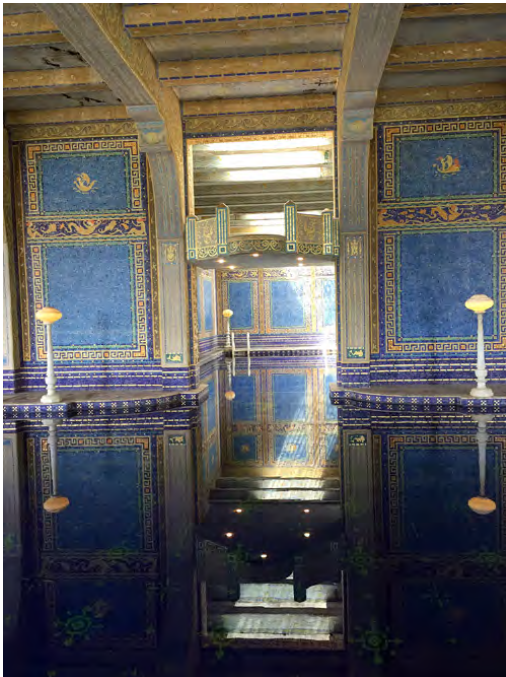
Anything is possible in California.



Kelly Wallace demonstrating his Precision Taxi skills.



Quite a few members went on the guided Hearst Castle tour Wednesday morning.



Restoring the outdoor pool to original splendor, in the morning coastal fog.

The Roman Pool, 24 carat gold inlaid tiles.





To the left, the view became spectacular once the fog lifted.
Above, the dining(?) room with an assortment of various horse racing flags.



Ken Blackman, aided by Ron Levy, performed a vacuum pump change, for real. A commercially available wrench and Ken's special, custom-built wrench.





Cliff Hanson gave a demonstration of the Valve Wobble Check procedure.



Gary Vogt demonstrating his mag timing check procedure he can use without removing the cowl.





Gary Vogt showing off some of the features of his Jaguar Cowl. Gary also went through of some other products he is developing.



Joel Williams demonstrated one of the new low-cost USB borescopes.



Ron Levy discussed the new BasicMed procedures.



Stew Wilson introduces Brian Brown, author of *Rescued! One Family's Miraculous Story of Survival*.

Theresa Venegas, Art Craft Paint, explained her system of painting Grumman's. At the end of her presentation she offered a \$1,000 discount on a complete repaint for convention attendees. The Peoples Choice winner below is one of her paint jobs.



Experts Panel of Kip Hanson, Ken Blackman, Gary Vogt and Ron Levy.





The wind up banquet was held at the historic Paso Robles Inn.



Joel Williams presents the Precision Taxi award to winner Kelly Wallace.



Joe Gugel won the inaugural Wing Nut Toss, ably hosted by Captain Nigel Thomas. We had 55 people enter this contest.





Dennis and Gail Cheever, winners of the Peoples Choice award.



Bill Daly presents Michael Whitson with his winnings for the Calcutta. He kindly donated his winnings back to the AYA Scholarship fund. A big Thank you to Michael.



Don and Kathy Cochran gave a presentation on the AYA 2017 Convention in Hutchinson, KS.





Jim Viola and his Cockpit Cool class.



First Timer Tony Gaspar was awarded the Convention Chairmans award for all his work at the convention, and before, as the local liaison person.

Bill Marvel, leader of the Grumman Limbo contest, presents the award to Kat Wells, a three-time winner.





Bill Daly, Calcutta organizer with Cindy Daly, winner of the Calcutta. A big Thank You to Cindy for donating her winnings back to the AYA Scholarship fund. We were assured there were no Louisiana politics involved with Cindy winning...



Steve Peach presents the Spot Landing award to winner Bob Hess, ten feet short of the line.



Jim Hamel and Sharon Spence present the Rigged Pre-Flight contest award to winner Carol Adams.

