



Join us in the Pilot Lounge at Brackett on
Thursday February 2, 2012
Social time 7:00PM
Speaker Meeting begins @ 7:30PM

Our guest speaker is
John Mahany
Pilot/Instructor/Speaker/Writer

TOPIC: ***Rules of Thumb in the Age of Automation—Easy Guidelines to Remember***

With increasing use of, and dependence on automation, whether SmartPhones, iPads or panel-mounted GPS units, many forget that there are often simpler, approximate solutions that will work for many situations. No need to rely completely on technology. John will share with us his list of valuable 'Rules of Thumb'.

John Mahany started flying in 1977, after college, earning his private pilot certificate in 1978, followed by several more ratings.

John is an instructor in the King Air program at Flight Safety International at Long Beach Airport (LGB). In 2006, he became a member of the Aviation Administration program staff at California State University LA, where he continues to teach on a part-time basis. John considers himself a student of flying, and wants to get a type rating in a variety of aircraft. He loves GA flying and at LGB he is part-owner of a 1953 C-180 tail dragger, N2982A.

This is a mere snippet of his extensive biography as a pilot, instructor, speaker and writer. For more information, please visit John's LinkedIn Profile at

<http://www.linkedin.com/pub/john-mahany/18/a3/2a1> or visit <http://www.johnmahany.com/>

A word from Denny Marshall

Well the first display of the year started out to be marginal weather. When we arrived at 8:30 there was a heavy overcast so we decided to wait about a half hour to see what was going to happen.

During that time three aircraft arrived and the overcast got worse so I advised them to leave before it started to rain. About fifteen minutes later a pilot called aviation weather and they said it would be sun shining within thirty minutes so we went ahead and set up the BBQ.

It stayed sunny until about 1:00 PM when the overcast came back so we decided to pack up before it started to rain. As a result a few late comers did not get fed.

As it turned out, the sun came out about a half hour later but too late to continue the BBQ.

Even with the on and off weather we still had about twenty aircraft and three cars. That's all for now. I hope the February weather is sunny.

We are still in the process of getting a website up for Brackett Airport Association.

We hope that this website will enable us to reach non members who are interested in flying and looking for an association that promotes aviation safety.

We plan to have a copy of the current Tailwinds, Events, Membership Forms, and notices that come up before or after the meetings.

If you have any items on what should be added to this website please send me an e-mail of your ideas.

phyllisvanarsdale@yahoo.com



It is the start of a new year and time for dues to be paid.

Brackett Airport Association has used these funds in the past to purchase radios for the Sunday Display, a new projector, a speaker/microphone for our speaker meetings. We have also enjoyed pizza and sodas at our meeting-at no expense to our members. The Sunday

Display will be needing new flags to cordon off the area from pedestrians walking onto the taxi area, coffee supplies and cookies for our meetings. These funds were used last year to have the best Christmas dinner with the best raffle prizes ever! We hope that this years dinner will be even better.

But, it won't be possible unless you support our efforts to keep you informed and in touch with your airport community.

Please pay your dues of \$20.

You may pay at the meeting on Thursday, Feb 2, or by mail to our P.O. Box 694, La Verne, CA 91750, or find a board member at our third Sunday event on Feb 19.

If you need to have an invoice, please let one of the board members know and we will mail you an invoice for your membership dues.

**If you joined in October-December of 2011, you do not have to pay for 2012.



Meet Member Warrick Leigh

Aircraft type? "Champ" wingspan "20"

Yes, 20" made by HobbyZone.



Warrick is one of BAA's youngest members. I'm sure you've seen him at meetings and he is always a fixture at the Sunday Displays helping out and hanging with Hal Clark.

He doesn't own a plane yet, but will someday soon. He became interested in flying at a young age while living in South Africa. His uncle was a pilot with a share in a Cessna. He also had a family friend who owned a variety of planes; Cessna 210, 303, 410, Chipmunk, and Bell Helicopter. Warrick grew to love the sense of adventure he saw in these pilots.

When he was young he would ask for balsa wood in order to build airplanes. He loved to learn how things worked.

He recently graduated from Cal Poly Pomona with a degree in mechanical engineering. I asked him how he came to Brackett. His home is in Irvine and the commuter traffic was bad from school. He would wait out the traffic while watching planes at Brackett, and noticed a flyer about a speaker in the Brackett lounge hosted by BAA. He and his friend Sam came to listen from the back of the room. After the meeting, Hal Clark initiated a conversation with the two of them and Warrick discovered that Hal was an engineer. Hal invited him to come to his hanger to see his planes. He's flown in the Corbin and Bonanza "V" tail with Hal.

He then started to come to the airport more and more. He loves Brackett. In his words, "it's like a park that airplanes just happen to fly into".

He loves being around members of BAA. They seem to have more adventures and lots of knowledge about flying and maintaining airplanes. When he comes to Brackett, he never knows what he'll see flying in or who he will talk to.

One day, visiting with Hal in his hanger, he noticed a scooter that wasn't working. Here Warrick was, a mechanical engineer and had never rebuilt anything. He asked if he could work on this as a project. In no time at all it was running and is now part of Hal's display on Sundays.

His other interests? For a birthday, he asked for a skateboard, but got a guitar instead. He began designing and making skateboards. He has sold several to make money for flying. Look up [*NEVEN Longboard Skateboard's*](#) website to see his designs.

He also built a guitar and wound the pick ups for it. You will have to ask him about that. He loves 'hands on' work around aviation and says there is always something new to learn. He likes being with Hal to learn the historical perspective of flying. Frank has aeronautical facts that he likes. He really enjoyed last month's talk with Arch and seeing the old videos of flight testing and landing on the decks of aircraft carriers.

Warrick is the future of aviation. Say hello to Warrick, and impart any knowledge you care to share. He'll be sure to listen.

Flying Funnies

What was the problem before?

Taxiing down the tarmac, the jetliner abruptly stopped, turned around and returned to the gate.

After an hour-long wait, it finally took off.

A concerned passenger asked the flight attendant, "What was the problem?"

"The pilot was bothered by a noise he heard in the engine," explained the Flight Attendant, "and it took us a while to find a new pilot."



BAA Board

President: Frank Sigona
Vice President: Denny Marshall
Secretary: Phyllis VanArsdale
Treasurer: Dena Miller
Membership: Bill Zander
Program Chairman: Rick VanArsdale

Come to the meetings to get and give ideas on how we/you can improve the airport community of Brackett.

Together we can make it great!