

August 2015  
Chairman's Note

Not too long ago, a woman stopped me and asked if I was a pilot. No surprise! My t-shirt had the words *pilot* on it! She told me how brave I must be and then went on to describe her harrowing experience on a recent airline trip and about how she could never pilot a plane. It seems as though little has changed in the minds of some. When flying was introduced to the public in the early 1900s, pilots were viewed as ethereal - they flew closer to the heavens and maybe even earned some heavenly grace from above. Pilots were akin to heroes - conquerors of the sky. Well, not really. Some were reckless daredevils!

Since we've been airborne for over a hundred years now, the pilot has lost his/her superhuman aura and has gained a majority of the public's respect as a confident and knowledgeable professional with a keen sense of decision-making. Others are less enlightened, unaware of the rigorous training required to earn a pilot's license. It takes a great deal of time, perseverance, and training. (We'll skip the financial element.) Although I am in awe of those who fly sophisticated aircraft and understand the array of instruments in a 777, I understand that if I had the appropriate training, I could accomplish the task.

My point is - should we do a 'right-seat' seminar in the Antelope Valley this year or something similar? There's going to be a shortage of pilots in the near future. This might be the opportunity to connect with schools and other groups. Please give some thought to this.

Chapter news - we have lost some members and gained some. I'm sad to see good friends leave but looking forward to meeting the new gals. As you all know, we are hosting to the 2016 fall meeting. Much preliminary work has been accomplished but we need everyone's help on this. If everyone takes a small share of the work, the task will not be so overwhelming.

Our next meeting, **Wednesday August 12**, will be at Lynne Hsia's home. It will be an official meeting to go over events for 2016. We will also be treated to some tales and images from the recent Air Race Classic. A reminder notice will be sent out at the end of this week.

Barbara