



# Plane News

The Official Newsletter of County of San Diego Airports



## From Military Parachutes to Private Aircraft

The U.S. government constructed Gillespie Field in 1942, during the early days of World War II, to be used as a training facility for Marine Corps parachutists. It was originally named Camp Gillespie in honor of Marine Lieutenant Archibald H. Gillespie. He served during the War with Mexico from 1846–1847 and had a prominent role in the effort to win California’s independence from Mexico.

The parachute program was very popular, and there was never a shortage of volunteers. This was partly due to the fact that enlisted men received an additional \$50 a month, and officers received an extra \$100 a month (a substantial amount in those days). In the beginning, Camp Gillespie was graduating 70 paratroopers each month; eventually, this number increased to 100 per month. During its 16 months as a parachute training center, 3,000 military personnel received their airborne wings, and more than 20,000 jumps were made without a single fatality. However, in 1944, the Marine Corps parachute units were phased out,



Gillespie Field, 1950. Photo courtesy of Bill Allen.

and Camp Gillespie became an auxiliary airfield to the Marine Corps Station at El Toro.

*continued on page 2*



Classic cars on display. Photo by Michael Drake.

## A Vintage Fly-In at Gillespie Field

The public was invited to a free vintage aircraft fly-in and classic car show at Gillespie Field on May 16 and 17.

Aircraft from the 1920s through 1950s on display included the 1930 Stearman 4E, 1931 Laird LBC 300, 1926 Boeing FB-5 Navy fighters and the late Steve McQueen’s 1945 Boeing Stearman biplane. Classic cars such as Model A and Model T Fords, as well as antique tractors, were also on display.

*continued on page 2*

# COMPASS POINTS

The journey of Gillespie Field from a military training facility to one of the largest and best general aviation airports in southern California continues. Over the last year there have been numerous ongoing improvements; several new taxiway projects are in the works as well as a preliminary engineering design for the planned Cajon Air Center development infrastructure. In addition, the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Weld Boulevard business park is almost complete, and the public comment period for the Gillespie Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan EIR should soon be finished.

The business and economic benefits of Gillespie Field, including the business parks, are significant and greatly add to East County community viability. Gillespie is home to some world-class historical aircraft and supported by passionate aviation enthusiasts. They are committed to preserving general aviation's history as well as inspiring the next generation by generously making their aircraft and tools available through community and private events.

With a rich history and a promising future, Gillespie Field will continue its exciting, innovative journey and exemplify the very best that the San Diego County aviation and business communities have to offer.



Clear skies & happy landings,

*Peter Drinkwater*

Peter Drinkwater,  
Director of County Airports

## From Military Parachutes *continued from page 1*

The facility was leased to the County of San Diego in 1947 and converted to a general aviation airport. The federal government granted ownership to the County in 1953. In the early years of County operation, Gillespie Field was mainly used as a base for privately owned aircraft and as a facility for flight schools.



*Gillespie Field, 2008.* Photo courtesy of [www.sangis.org](http://www.sangis.org).

Today, Gillespie Field is the oldest and largest of the eight County airports. It has grown to include a terminal, two industrial parks, three museums, a restaurant and several flight schools. It's also home to aviation-related businesses such as repair and maintenance shops, aircraft sales and rental services, instrument and avionics shops, fuel, aircraft storage and much more. Over the years, Gillespie Field and its business parks have developed into a very important part of the community, pumping hundreds of millions of dollars into the local economy and employing thousands of East County residents.

## Gillespie Fly-In *continued from page 1*



*1928 Boeing 40C mail plane.* Photo by Michael Drake.

A major attraction was a Boeing 40C mail plane originally used to deliver mail. It was one of only 82 that were built in 1928 and was fully restored by Addison Pemberton in 2008.

Free parking was provided at the Gillespie Field Trolley Station. Approximately 5,000 persons, from children to grandparents, attended the event over the course of the weekend. The Gillespie Pilots Association reported that 14 pilots volunteered to fly for EAA's Young Eagles program after 40 kids signed up at the fly-in.



*Aerial view of vintage aircraft.* Photo by Mike Le France.



## New Kiosk at Gillespie's West Transient Ramp



San Diego State University SEP (Success Enable Pilots) members Adam Beller, Carrie Davis, Adam Oehmke, Kyle Rabiyan, Samantha Stoneman and Christy Whitman built and installed a tiedown collection and information kiosk at Gillespie's West Transient Ramp. Rabiyan completed a landscape project at Fallbrook Airport several years back as an Eagle Scout. Please visit the club's website at:

[www.sdsusep.org](http://www.sdsusep.org)

*SDSU SEP members (l-r) Kyle Rabiyan & Adam Beller with Alfonso Freyjes of Airports Maintenance installing kiosk. County Airports photo.*

### Get to Know County Airports:

## GILLESPIE FIELD MANAGEMENT



*Gillespie Field Airport Manager Roger Griffiths at left & Assistant Manager Marc Baskel. Photo by Sarah Solis.*

What do two of Gillespie Field's airport management staff have in common other than being San Diego transplants? Their jobs are integral to Gillespie's daily operations. Airport Manager Roger Griffiths and Assistant Manager Marc Baskel provide information and support to Gillespie's pilots, tenants and local residents, often working as a liaison between the three communities.

Roger and Marc have managed Gillespie during the largest increase of operations the airport has seen in the last 30 years.

### Roger Griffiths

Roger was born and raised near Manchester, England; he spent many family holidays camping in Switzerland near an airport. As a youngster, he'd sit and watch the planes come and go; from that point on, aviation was in his blood. After graduating from Nottingham Trent University, he joined the Royal Air Force where he worked as an operations and intelligence officer for eight years. He met "the one," fell in love and moved to California to marry her. His first job in the U.S. was a management position at a local Albertson's. A year later, he got a job at Palomar Airport as operations coordinator, then assistant manager; in October 2004, he moved to Gillespie as airport manager.

Roger finds that running a sizeable business in the midst of a large built-up area can pose unique challenges. With so many tenants and pilots on the field, as well as several densely populated communities around the airport, oftentimes there are conflicting needs, wants and personalities.

Roger has watched Gillespie greatly improve. Massive amounts of pavement have been replaced in the time he's been airport manager. He'd like to see the airport infrastructure continue to improve, as well as the successful development of the airport's 70 acres.

Roger is a true family man—he loves spending time with his wife and two children. When he's not attending water polo games or open house nights, he's driving around in his sports car or building model airplanes.

### Marc Baskel

Marc was born in a small town outside Atlanta, Georgia, where he lived for 20 years. When he was young, his dad would take him to Peachtree-Dekalb Airport to watch airplanes take off and land. Similar to Roger, these trips sparked his fascination with aviation. After graduating from the Arizona State University with a degree in aviation management, he worked for Scottsdale Airport. Later, he worked at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport as an assistant airfield officer before being promoted to terminal management coordinator—complete with a sixth floor corner office with a view. He turned down another promotion and instead came to San Diego to be with his longtime girlfriend (now his wife). In November 2005 he began working as the operations coordinator for Gillespie Field, and in 2007 he was promoted to assistant airport manager.

Marc says his favorite part of his job is the freedom it provides. Because he has office work as well as field work, he's not trapped in a monotonous day-to-day routine. One of the many challenges he faces is noise complaints. Marc walks a fine line when explaining to the community how the airport works, gingerly telling them they live next to a facility that's been here since World War II. Where does Marc see Gillespie Field in five years? "We've done so much work in the last three years; I'd love to see the infrastructure and taxiway for the 70 acres done."

Marc is crazy about the water—he loves swimming and surfing. He's also an avid golfer who adores Fantasy Football and spending time with his wife.

# HISTORY ALIVE at GILLESPIE FIELD

*Many people know that San Diego Air & Space Museum has a hangar at Gillespie Field; but did you know there are two other museums located on the field?*



Photo by Reggie Angquico

## Allen Airways Flying Museum

Allen Airways Flying Museum, located at 2020 North Marshall Avenue, held a vintage fly-in at Gillespie Field (see pages 1–2, this issue) in May. Throughout the years, the museum has hosted many famous pilots and astronauts. Currently under restoration are a 1940 Ryan STM-2 and a 1929 Boeing F4B-1 Navy fighter that will be the only one of its kind flying in the world.

Allen Airways Flying Museum is available for corporate events, fly-ins, and school group tours, senior tours, the Boy Scouts and Civil Air Patrol cadets upon request. Current aircraft include:

- 1926 Boeing FB-5 Navy fighter, one of only two
- 1930 Stearman C3R Business Speedster (the only one of 38 restored to perfection)
- 1942 Ryan PT-22
- 1945 Boeing Stearman N3188, the last airplane owned and flown by the late actor Steve McQueen
- 1919 Stakebed Model T truck

For more information, call (619) 596-2020



Photo courtesy of Jim Ostrich

## Warbirds West

Warbirds West, located at 1942 B Joe Crosson Drive, was founded in 2003 by owner and operator Jim Ostrich. It will be featured in an upcoming documentary on the Discovery Channel thanks to their L-29. They teach the Boy Scout Aviation Merit Badge Program at their hangar on a quarterly basis and offer a free flu clinic to the public each fall.

Warbirds West is open to the public most Saturdays from 9:00 a.m.–4:30 p.m. and upon request for events. They invite you to check out their:

- Beech T-34A Mentor (USAF/USN primary trainer)
- North American T-28C Trojan (USAF/USN advanced trainer)
- Beech C-45H (USAF/USN navigation trainer/passenger transport) built in 1943 (WWII heritage)
- North American L-17A Navion (post-WWII liaison/passenger transport)
- Aero L-29C Delfin jet (early Czechoslovakian pilot trainer)
- MiG-21 cockpit
- Assorted military ground vehicles



For more information, call (858) 414-6258 or check out their website:

[www.wwam.org](http://www.wwam.org)



*For more aviation history, visit the San Diego Air & Space Museum at 335 Kenney Street. This museum is open to the public Monday, Wednesday and Friday 8 a.m.–3 p.m. Please call (619) 258-1221 for more information.*



ASTREA helicopters. Photo by Dan Megna.

## ASTREA Safeguards Communities from 500 Feet

The Sheriff's ASTREA (Aerial Support to Regional Enforcement Agencies) unit began operations at Gillespie Field in 1972. From 500 feet in the air, they cover all 4,200 square miles of San Diego County assisting city, county, state and federal agencies as well as assisting Orange, Riverside and Imperial Counties as needed.

ASTREA lends a hand to ground officers in pursuit of criminals as well as search and rescues for missing children, lost hikers and Alzheimer's patients. ASTREA also assists lifeguards during big surf or during cliff rescues; the FAA during searches for downed aircraft; and CalFire during firefighting operations. The unit operates 24/7.

*"If there's a need and we can do it safely, there's no reason not to try."*

—Lieutenant Jon Shellhammer, ASTREA

## The Breise Tradition—Soloing at 16

Fred Breise and Carl Johnston moved Breise & Johnston Flying Service to Gillespie Field in 1954. Fred's son, Wayne, started working at the business at the age of 15 pumping gas (getting paid five cents per gallon). Wayne became full-time in 1964 after receiving his CFI rating and his bachelor's in business management from SDSU.

Wayne's daughter Cynthia also spent her childhood at the family business. She was one month old



Soloists at Gillespie (l-r) Jeff, Cynthia & Wayne Breise. Photo courtesy of Wayne Breise.

when she enjoyed her first flight. She began formal flight lessons at the age of 15, and soloed on her 16th birthday before taking her driving test. Cynthia easily passed her flight test but almost failed her driving

test the same day. She joined her dad at Gillespie in 1998 and manages the operation.

Cynthia's son Jeff began working part time at Gillespie at the age of 13. He began his formal flight instruction at the age of 16 and soloed in 2008; his instructor said that of all his students Jeff was the best. He will be attending college in northern California this fall and is hoping his granddad will provide air taxi service for visits home.

Wayne soloed on August 20, 1957; Cynthia on January 7, 1980; and Jeff on October 31, 2008. All were 16 years old, and all soloed at Gillespie Field. More than 20 Breise family members over four generations have soloed at 16 years old.

## Welcome Aboard to New Airports Staff

The newest member of the Airport's Real Property team is Real Property Agent, Patrick "Joe" Ryan. Joe is involved in the daily management and leasing of Airports property. He brings his many years of experience in real estate and real estate finance to the Real Property team. Joe is an Army veteran and San Diego native with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Away from work Joe enjoys spending time with his wife Gillian, riding motorcycles, and going to the desert.

Yavonka Burks joined the Airports financial team on January 2. She previously worked for the Auditor & Controller for nine years and has a strong background in capital projects. She graduated from SDSU with a bachelor's degree in finance and worked for the Department of Environmental Health while attending school. Yavonka is currently studying for the CPA exam. Born in Los Angeles, she is a native Californian, but grew up in suburban Chicago. In her spare time she enjoys reading, visiting museums, listening to live music, hanging out with her friends and traveling.

In July of this year Julie Paulsen will have completed one year of service with the County of San Diego. She started her GIS/engineering career 12 years ago with the City of San Diego upon graduation from SDSU. Her



New employees (l-r) Patrick "Joe" Ryan, Yavonka Burks & Julie Paulsen. Photo by Sarah Solis.

current task is to analyze the County airports' spatial data as an engineering technician. When she's not working, her time is spent at rehearsals for the upcoming musical production of *Senior Follies*. Las Vegas is her destination of choice as often as possible—not because of "The Strip," but because it's where her daughter, son-in-law, two granddaughters and grandson live. She hits "the jackpot" every time she visits!

# Fallbrook Open House

On Sunday April 19, in conjunction with the Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce's 23rd annual Avocado Festival, Fallbrook Airpark hosted its annual Open House. In spite of temperatures near 100 degrees, several thousand visitors and aviation enthusiasts attended the event.

The Airpark provided satellite parking for the festival with shuttle service into town. The Friends of Fallbrook Airpark served hamburgers, hot dogs and drinks. San Diego County Sheriff's *Copter 12* (based at Fallbrook) conducted water drops; and the Palomar RC Flyers gave an air show. There were also demonstrations by Mercy Air, a fly-by performed by a squadron of T-34s from March Air Force Base and a formation low pass by WWII Skyraiders from Ramona Airport. Dozens of Fallbrook-based aircraft were on display. There were also free flights in a professional simulator, giving very realistic flight lessons to visitors over 12 years of age.

# Borrego Open House & Fly-In



County Airports photos

Borrego Valley Airport's Open House and Fly-In on February 21 was a great success. A final gate count showed that 1,438 people attended and the restaurant served 784 patrons. One hundred and six aircraft flew in at various times during the day; 78 aircraft fueled up using 3,217 gallons of aviation fuel from the new fuel pump system. A dozen antique cars were on display, the oldest being from 1936.

# Ramona Flying Clinic

Classic Fighters of America hosted a Formation Flying Clinic at Ramona Airport March 19–March 22. The clinic consisted of ground school classes as well as in-air instruction and practice. This training is required annually by the FAA for pilots who fly in formation at air shows across the country. Pilots at the Ramona clinic came from Chicago, Denver, Las Vegas and all over Southern California. Ramona Airport is the new home for this event, which will be held four times a year.

*“We love this airport, and we love their hospitality.”*

—Ramona Flying Clinic participant

The event garnered a great deal of media coverage by local TV stations and newspapers, which resulted in hundreds of members of the public coming to the airport to view vintage aircraft and witness the pilots' skills. The public was admitted free of charge. Featured were aircraft the public rarely has the chance to see up close or watch fly, such as a P-51 Mustang, one of the nine remaining WWII Corsairs (16,000 were built originally), Yaks, T-6s, Skyraiders and Navions.

*“A Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world: it can just barely kill you.”*

—attributed to Max Stanley



Photo courtesy of [www.adampass.com](http://www.adampass.com)



Ramona photos by Julie Clevenger.

## Letter from the Editor



Photo courtesy of Rachel MacGowan.

The 4th of July is a very special date for me and countless others.

Not only is it a time to celebrate the birth of our brave new nation; it's yet another reason to recognize all those who

have fought to protect the "unalienable Rights" the Declaration of Independence proclaimed as ours those 233 years ago.

To our readers who are veterans, active duty or in the reserves, please allow me to wish you a belated Happy 4th of July! It's because of your bravery and dedication that we continue to enjoy the freedoms we have today, and it's to you that I offer my sincerest gratitude.

*Semper Fi!*

Sarah Solis,  
Very Proud  
Military Wife

## Arc's Groundskeeping with a Smile

A white van approaches Gillespie Field's terminal building parking lot; the Arc crew is ready to start another day of grounds maintenance at the airport. Groundskeeping services are performed by The Arc of San Diego (Arc), one of the region's largest human-service agencies. They are a private, not-for-profit organization that assists people with developmental disabilities. Arc has been leasing land from County Airports since 1982, where it operates one of its training and production facilities known as the East County Training Center.

Arc faced a challenge to provide services to the disabled while paying their lease rent. So as a solution, Real Property proposed that Arc could provide ground keeping services outside Gillespie Field's fence—the monetary value of which would be equivalent to Arc's rental obligations. In June 2003, the Board of Supervisors gave approval, and soon after that Arc's first eager crew arrived at the airport. Currently, the four-person crew consists of Henry Delmar, John Fisk, Nicholas "Nick" Mitzel, and Raquel Salazar, and is supervised by Job Coach Chris Carson.

Raquel, a veteran crew member, has been here from the beginning. She is very proud that her efforts help to beautify the airport. Raquel is actively involved in the Special



Job Coach Chris Carson (second from right) with Arc groundskeepers (l-r) John Fisk, Henry Delmar, Raquel Salazar & Nick Mitzel. Photo by Reggie Angquico.

Olympics program and participates in a multitude of sports. John is another veteran member of the crew; he enjoys talking to people and never runs out of topics for conversation. He likes watching sports and truly appreciates that Airports staff treat the Arc crew as one of their own.

Nick has been on the crew for about two years and enjoys making the surroundings at Gillespie Field look nice by keeping it trash-free. Nick's hobbies include surfing the Internet, playing video games and going to Disneyland. The newest addition to the Arc crew is Henry Delmar. A mild-mannered gentleman, he immediately became an integral part of the group. Henry is fascinated with planes and likes the friendly atmosphere at Gillespie.

After many years of coaching the Arc crew, Rosa Acuna changed positions within the Arc organization in early 2009. New Job Coach Chris Carson knows his way around Gillespie Field; his dad has been in charge of Airports Maintenance for years. Gillespie's groundskeepers love what they do and take great pride in their work.

## Palomar Airport Receives Green for Going Green

McClellan-Palomar Airport's new terminal is the recipient of a *Savings by Design* rebate and award of excellence from San Diego Gas & Electric. Both were received for installing computer-controlled, high-energy efficient systems in the new terminal such as the roof and windows.

The award was received on April 20, 2009, by County Airports Director Peter Drinkwater, Senior Civil Engineer Anthony Dos Santos and McClellan-Palomar Airport Manager



Lianna Rios & Marianne Sy (second and fourth from left) of SDG&E present Savings by Design Award to (l-r) Willie Vasquez, Peter Drinkwater & Tony Dos Santos. Photo by John Otto.

Willie Vasquez. It will be proudly displayed in the terminal's ticketing lobby. This award symbolizes the level of excellence that County Airports is constantly striving to achieve and maintain.



## Gillespie Field (SEE)

**Gillespie Field Development Council:** Meets the third Tuesday of most months (2008 schedule is posted on the Gillespie Field web page). All meetings begin at 6 p.m. and are held at the El Cajon City Council Chambers, 200 East Main Street, El Cajon. For more information, call (619) 956-4800.



Photo by Matt Wenhardt

**Air Group One, Commemorative Air Force (CAF):** Join the "Air Force No One Ever Heard Of" Saturdays at 10 a.m. at 1860 Joe Crosson Drive. Pancake breakfast on the last Saturday of each month at 8:30 a.m. (bring a warbird, eat free). For more information, call (619) 448-4505.

**San Diego Chapter of 99's:** This organization of women pilots meets the fourth Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. For location or information, call Frankie Clemens at (619) 449-0670.

**Civil Air Patrol Squadron 57:** Meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at Ketema Aerospace, 790 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon. For more information, please call Tom Charpentier at (619) 818-4011.

**Air & Space Museum:** The San Diego Air & Space Museum Hangar at Gillespie Field is open to the public Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and some Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, Saturday hours and tours, call (619) 258-1221.

**Display of historical aircraft:** Second Sunday of every month

from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. Only for those based at Classic Hangars. For more information, please call Len Buckle at (619) 449-0539.

**Safari Aviation West:** The fourth Saturday of each month, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Safari Aviation West hosts an aircraft display at Gillespie Field. To display your plane, bring it to Safari Aviation West at 1905 North Marshall at the east end of the hangar complex. For more information, call Dick McDowell at (619) 448-2360.

**Gillespie Pilots Association:** Meets the first Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. in the Gillespie Field Administration Building. For more information, visit: [www.gillespiepilots.org](http://www.gillespiepilots.org)

**Display your historical aircraft:** First Sunday of each month from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gillespie Field Administration/Terminal Ramp. For more details, contact the Assistant Airport Manager at (619) 956-4810.

**The Wing Is The Thing (TWITT):** Meetings are held on the third Saturday of every other month beginning in January at 1:30 p.m. at Hangar A4 on Skid Row. For more information, please call (619) 980-9831 or visit: [www.twitt.org](http://www.twitt.org).

**Display your historical aircraft:** Fourth Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Sky Harbor Hangars. For more information, call Phil Yoon at (619) 449-9464.

## Fallbrook Airpark (L18)

**Fallbrook Airpark Advisory Committee:** Meets the first Monday of the second month of every quarter at the Fallbrook Public Utilities District Public Meeting Hall, 990 East Mission Road, Fallbrook. For more information, call Bo Donovan at (760) 723-8395.

**Coyote Country Chapter of 99's:** Meets the third Tuesday of each month. For time and location, visit: [www.sandiego99s.org](http://www.sandiego99s.org)

**Civil Air Patrol Squadron 87:** Meetings are held the second

and fourth Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the "Scout Shack" (Fallbrook Fire Department conference room and community meeting center), 231 East Hawthorne, Fallbrook. For more information, please contact Jim Redmon at (760) 728-5388 or Jerry Rohles at (949) 369-9425, or visit the squadron's web site at <http://sq87.cawwg.cap.gov/>.

**EAA Young Eagles Days:** Three times a year on Saturday. For more information, contact Don Evans by e-mail: [zc112-g@sbcglobal.net](mailto:zc112-g@sbcglobal.net)

**Display your antique or classic airplanes:** the last Sunday of each month from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. The displays will be located on the transient ramp. The public is invited to visit, and owners of antique aircraft from other airports are welcome to display their aircraft. Contact Bo Donovan at (760) 723-8395.

## Ramona Airport Open House

Saturday,  
September 12, 2009

Pancake Breakfast

Carne Asada Lunch

Historical Aircraft  
Display

"Tricked-Out"  
Big Rig Truck  
Show

& More...

For more  
information, please  
contact Bo Donovan  
at (760) 788-3366

## Borrego Valley Airport (L08)

**Borrego Springs Chapter of 99's:** This organization of women pilots meets the second Saturday of each month at the Borrego Valley Airport. For meeting times or more information, call Louise Phillips at (760) 767-4378.

**Display your antique or classic airplane:** The second Sunday of the month from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, contact Viki Cole at (760) 767-7415.

## McClellan-Palomar Airport (CRQ)

**Palomar Airport Advisory Committee:** Meets the third Thursday of most months. All meetings take place at 7 p.m. in the Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 1200 Carlsbad Village Drive, Carlsbad. For more information, call (760) 431-4646, extension 5.

**Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 286 (North County):** Meets the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the County Administration Building at McClellan-Palomar Airport, 2192 Palomar Airport Road, Carlsbad. For more information, call Bob Wilson at (760) 489-9031.

**Palomar Chapter of 99's:** This organization of women pilots meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. For meeting location or more information, contact Robin Gartman at (760) 931-0546 or [palomar99s@gmail.com](mailto:palomar99s@gmail.com)

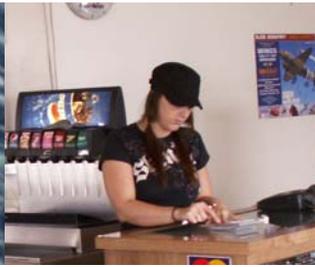
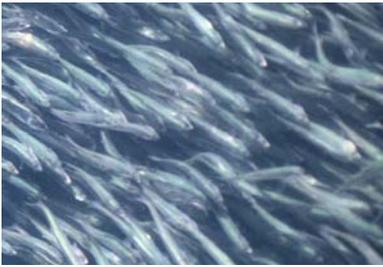
## Ramona Airport (RMN)

**Classic Rotors Helicopter Museum:** Open to the public Friday through Monday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Open Tuesday through Thursday by appointment: (760) 803-0244

**Display your antique or classic airplane:** The third Sunday of each month from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Chuck Hall Aviation, Cruiseair Aviation and Pacific Executive Aviation. For more information, call Chuck Hall Aviation at (760) 789-8178, Cruiseair Aviation at (760) 789-8020 or Pacific Executive Aviation at (760) 789-6384.

## Jacumba Airport (L78)

Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California (AGCSC): For meeting schedule and other information, call Rolf Schulze at (619) 286-3855 or visit: [www.agcsc.org](http://www.agcsc.org)



### Gillespie Field Cafe

2015 N. Marshall Ave.  
El Cajon, CA 92020  
(619) 448-5909

Monday–Thursday  
7 a.m.–3 p.m.

Friday  
7 a.m.–9 p.m.

Sunday  
8 a.m.–2 p.m.

## Friday Fish Fry Now at Gillespie Field Cafe

We've written before about how great we think Gillespie Field Cafe is, but they've kicked it up a notch! Paul Craig, operator and cook, has added a ton of new items to his menu as well as a fish fry every Friday evening from 5:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m. (for those of you who haven't been taking notes, that means he's tacked on six more operating hours per week). Sarah Solis of Airports Administration stated, "I can personally vouch for the fish and chips. The fish was moist, the batter was crispy and Paul didn't skimp on the chips."

Grab the kids and head over to 2015 North Marshall Avenue at the base of the control tower and try out one of the new items:



Photo by Reggie Angquico

- Fish and/or shrimp and chips
- Steak, shrimp & fries with your choice of side salad or a cup of chowder
- Fish or shrimp taco plate
- Fried shrimp salad
- New England clam chowder
- Spaghetti & meatballs with salad and garlic toast
- Kid's corndog with fries and a drink

- Bean & cheese burrito with rice and beans

Gillespie Field Cafe— where you don't have to be a pilot to enjoy the ambiance of the Field!



On January 13, 2009, *County of San Diego* CAO (Chief Administrative Officer) **Walt Eckard** and Assistant CAO **Helen Robbins-Meyer** went on an orientation flight to view improvements being made at several County Airports and tour *McClellan-Palomar Airport's* new terminal.



Meeting at Palomar were (l-r) CAO **Walt Eckard**, Director of County Airports **Peter Drinkwater**, Assistant CAO **Helen Robbins-Meyer** & Palomar Airport Assistant Manager **Olivier Brackett**. County Airports photo.

# Plane News

The Official Newsletter of San Diego County Airports

Mail form to: **Plane News Editor (MS S-119)**  
**County Airports Administration Building**  
**1960 Joe Crosson Drive, El Cajon, CA 92020**  
or

e-mail Sarah Solis: [sarah.solis@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:sarah.solis@sdcounty.ca.gov)

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# County of San Diego Airports

## Gillespie Field Administration Building

1960 Joe Crosson Drive  
El Cajon, CA 92020

**Phone:** (619) 956-4800

**Fax:** (619) 956-4801

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Photo by Matt Wenhardt

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### Summer 2009

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### County Airports

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Pam Slater-Price  
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Bill Horn

### Chief Administrative Officer

Walt Ekard



### Director of Public Works

John L. Snyder

### Department of Public Works Website

[www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw)

### San Diego County Airports Website

[www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw/airports.html](http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/dpw/airports.html)

**Director of County Airports**  
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