

# THE AERO CLUB OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

"CRADLE OF AVIATION"

Montgomery Flight  
1904



Moffett Field  
1933



China Clipper  
1936



Hiller XH - 44  
1944



NASA Ames Research Center  
1939



## *Northern Wings*

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Spring 2014

### Aero Club Spring Luncheon

#### **Dr. Morton Grosser to speak on Gossamer Albatross**

Dr. Morton Grosser, venture capitalist, author and Bay Area aviator who is a frequent speaker at EAA Air Venture, will present an illustrated account of the human-powered Gossamer Airplane Project at the Aero Club's Spring Luncheon.

This event, for Aero Club members and non-members alike, will begin at 11:15 a.m. Thursday, April 3, at Michaels at Shoreline restaurant, 2600 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Lunch is \$20 per person, paid at the door. Please RSVP to [RSVP@aeroclubnorcal.org](mailto:RSVP@aeroclubnorcal.org) or (408) 634-8062.

Dr. Grosser learned to fly at age 16 at Hayward Municipal Airport. He currently has a hanger at Hayward for

his Falcon, L39 and Pitts Special with a radial engine, which he built. He is a speaker on electric aircraft at EAA Air Venture each year at Oshkosh. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees at MIT and his PhD at Stanford University. He has written eight books, holds several patents and helped Paul MacCready with development of the human-powered Gossamer Condor and Albatross.

The Albatross was powered using pedals to drive a large two-bladed propeller. On June 12, 1979, piloted by amateur cyclist Bryan Allen, it completed the 22.2-mile English Channel crossing in 2 hours and 49 minutes, achieving a top speed of 18 mph



**Dr. Morton Grosser in Pitts cockpit**

(Morton Grosser photo)

and an average altitude of 5 feet.

In those projects, Dr. Grosser explained, three teams designed, built, and flew six 100-foot-wingspan airplanes for two new flight regimes in five years. Dr. Grosser co-designed and built components for the aircraft, including the Gossamer Albatross, which won the Kremer Cross-Channel Prize for flying across the English Channel solely under human power. He was a pilot of the Gossamer Albatross II.

The Gossamer teams invented many of the carbon-fiber construction techniques used today, wrote widely-cited technical papers, published three successful books, and made three movies which won, respectively, an Oscar, an Emmy, and the Golden Eagle at the National Film Festival."

Dr. Grosser currently is president of MG Consulting in Menlo Park, specializing in venture capital and management and technology consulting.



**Gossamer Albatross in flight in 1979**  
(Gossamer Project photo)

## Aero Club News

### Honored CFI Max Trescott elected Aero Club president; SJ State professor Glynn Falcon chosen as vice president

Max Trescott, aviation author, lecturer and 2008 National Flight Instructor of the Year, has been elected president of the Aero Club of Northern California, succeeding commercial pilot Sandra Clifford.

Glynn Falcon, a San Jose State University aviation professor and attorney, was elected vice president at the January meeting of the Aero Club Board of Directors. He succeeds Trescott, who had been vice president.

At its February meeting, the 15-member board elected Clifford as treasurer and former president Rick Willson as secretary.

Trescott was honored by the Federal Aviation Administration as 2008 Flight Instructor of the Year. He started flying at age 15 and is passionate about preserving general aviation for future generations. He worked for 25 years in sales, marketing and management at Hewlett-Packard before pursuing aviation as a vocation. He holds an ATP certificate for all four airplane classes (single and multi-engine for land and sea), has more than 6,500 flight hours, and owns a Lake Buccaneer seaplane.

Trescott has authored two books, one on the Garmin G1000 and the other on flying IFR with modern WAAS-based GPS receivers. Trescott specializes in teaching in glass cockpit aircraft, such as the Cirrus and G1000-equipped aircraft, at Palo Alto and surrounding airports. He writes a monthly AOPA article for their Opinion Leaders blog at <http://blog.aopa.org/opinionleaders/category/authors/max-trescott/>.



**Max Trescott with his amphibian.**



**Glynn Falcon**

A frequent speaker at AirVenture and Sun 'n Fun, he also has his own General Aviation blog at [www.maxtrescott.com](http://www.maxtrescott.com). He's the past President of Los Medicos Voladores (Flying Doctors) and SiliconValleyGA (formerly called CRAMP).

Falcon is an aviation lecturer for the Aviation and Technology Department at San Jose State University. He received his BS degree in aviation operations from San Jose State in 1970, and learned to fly with the SJSU Flying 20s at Reid-Hillview Airport. He earned a Juris Doctorate degree in 1974.

Falcon has been teaching college-level courses for 40 years, and providing both ground and flight instruction since 1967. He practiced aviation law, primarily accident cases, with his own law firm until 2006, when he returned to full-time teaching. He has more than 5,000 flight hours and regularly flies IFR in his Piper Arrow.

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## President's Message:

As you know, the Aero Club of Northern California is a social group of people who

share a common love of aviation. We're the local chapter of the NAA, and our mission continues to be threefold:

- \* To honor those who've made significant contributions to aviation and aerospace
- \* To kickstart the next generation of aviators via scholarships and public outreach
- \* To host events and tours of interest to our members

I would like to ask you to become more involved in the Aero Club this year in the same way that I became active in the organization: by joining a committee! We need your help. Can you assist us with any of the following immediate needs? We are looking for one or more people to:

- \* Assist our Treasurer
- \* Help our Scholarship & Fundraising Committee pursue a new funding opportunity
- \* Help with web site development
- \* Help publicize the Aero Club to recruit new members
- \* Help streamline our silent auction checkout process

Please email me at [mtrescott@comcast.net](mailto:mtrescott@comcast.net) or phone me at 650-224-7124 if you can help us in these or other areas. We truly need more help from individual members to meet our goals of growing our scholarship program and adding additional member events this year. Last year, through your generous cash donations and silent auction bids, we awarded a record \$8,000 for four scholarships.

-- Max Trescott

**Crystal Eagle Award Dinner 2013**



**Aero Club President Sandra Clifford presents Crystal Eagle to Rod Machado.**  
(Northern Wings photo)

## **Aviation humorist Rod Machado awarded 2013 Crystal Eagle by Aero Club of Northern California**

Aviation author, humorist and flight instructor Rod Machado was presented with the Aero Club of Northern California's 2013 Crystal Eagle Award. The award is given annually to honor individuals whose achievements are among the highest in aviation and aerospace.

The annual Crystal Eagle dinner was held Nov. 1, at the Hiller Aviation Museum in San Carlos, Calif.

Machado, a pilot since 1970 and holder of multiple ratings, is best known as an author of aviation books and seminar speaker at events such as EAA AirVenture, Sun 'N Fun and AOPA Expo. His seminars include Defensive Flying, Handling In-Flight Emergencies, and Aviation Humor.

Born in Oakland, Machado started flying at age 16 at Reid-Hillview Airport in San Jose. He soloed at age 17 and took his private pilot check ride with famed flight instructor and air show pilot Amelia Reid. By age 19, he was as certified flight instructor.

Over the years, he earned a number of other pilot ratings, including airline transport pilot, although he usually flies a Cessna 150. He has logged more than 8,000 flight hours, most of it giving dual instruction. Machado has shared his humor and wisdom in books, videos and audio cassette albums, and in a monthly column, "License to Learn," for AOPA Pilot magazine.

The Crystal Eagle Award was first presented by the Aero Club in 1983 to legendary aviator Gen. Jimmy Doolittle. Among past recipients are Gen. Chuck Yeager, Stanley Hiller Jr., Jim Nissen, Burt Rutan, Jeana Yeager, Darryl Greenamyer, Paul Poberezny, Wayne Handley, Eileen Collins, Sean D. Tucker, Steve Fossett, Brian Shul, C.E. "Bud" Anderson and Julie Clark.

The San Jose-based Aero Club of Northern California is a chapter of the National Aeronautic Association.



**Rod Machado -- 2013 Crystal Eagle** (Northern Wings photo)

## Crystal Eagle recipients over the years

1983 - James "Jimmy" Doolittle	1999 - Paul H. Poberezny
1984 - Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager	2000 - Wayne Handley
1985 - Stanley Hiller Jr.	2001 - Igor I. Sikorsky
1986 - William "Bill" Lear	2002 - A. Scott Crossfield
1987 - James M. "Jim" Nissen	2003 - Clay Lacy
1988 - Anthony W. "Tony" LeVier	2004 - Elgen Long
1989 - Elbert "Burt" L. Rutan	2005 - Eileen Collins
1990 - George S. Cooper	2006 - Sean D. Tucker
1991 - Allen E. Paulson	2007 - Steve Fossett
1992 - Jeana Yeager	2008 - Phil Boyer
1993 - Robert T. Jones	2009 - Mike Melvill
1994 - Frank L. Christensen	2010 - Brian Shul

1995 - James S. Ricklefs  
1996 - Darryl G. Greenamyer  
1997 - Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson  
1998 - Donald D. Engen

2011 - C.E. "Bud" Anderson  
2012 - Julie Clark  
2013 - Rod Machado

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## John Cabigas, Terry Rinehart honored by NAA at annual Crystal Eagle Awards Dinner

Retired Air Force Major and U-2 pilot John V. Cabigas and retired airline captain Terry Rinehart, who was among the first women to fly for a major U.S. airline, have been honored with National Aeronautic Association Certificates of Merit. NAA president Jonathan Gaffney made the presentations at the Aero Club's annual Crystal Eagle awards dinner last Nov. 1.

Cabigas spent his military career flying the high-altitude U-2 reconnaissance aircraft on missions throughout the world, ranging from combat zones overseas to humanitarian missions over the United States.

Born in the Philippines, he emigrated with his family to San Jose at the age of 6.

After graduating from Independence High School in 1980, he attended San Jose State University, served in the USAF ROTC, and graduated in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Aeronautics and earning a FAA mechanic certificate with airframe and powerplant ratings. Cabigas was the first

recipient of a scholarship from the Aero Club. After Air Force pilot training, he served as a T-37B instructor pilot and then became a high-altitude combat mission pilot and tactics officer flying the U-2 out of Beale Air Force Base.

He served in operations over Iraq, South Korea, Cyprus, Bosnia/Kosovo and Haiti, and in humanitarian missions such as the 1995 Mississippi river floods. Among his later assignments were tactics assistant flight commander/combat mission pilot and in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He retired in 2010 after 24 years active duty, including 18 years in the U-2 program, and 26 overseas deployments. He currently instructs new Air Force U-2 pilots as a civilian contractor.

Rinehart, who is a member of the Aero Club's Board of Directors, was born into an accomplished aviation family and become one of the first women airline pilots flying for a major U.S. air carrier.



**NAA President Jonathan Gaffney,  
John Cabigas, Sandra Clifford.**

(Northern Wings photo)

She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in aeronautical operations from San Jose State University while finishing her pilot ratings, including airline transport pilot, helicopter and flight instructor. In 1976, she was the first woman hired as an airline transport pilot by Western Airlines, which was later merged with Delta Airlines. She flew Boeing 737s, transitioning to Boeing 757s and 767s later in her airline career.

She and her husband, Bob, also a retired airline captain, have a son and two daughters, all pilots. Her mother was Barbara Erickson London, who during World War II was the first commanding officer of the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron and then the commanding officer of the Women's Air Force Service Pilots (WASP) Sixth Ferrying Group flying both fighters and bombers.



**NAA President Jonathan Gaffney, Terry Rinehart, Sandra Clifford.**

(Northern Wings photo)

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## Aero Club awards aviation students scholarships

The Aero Club of Northern California has awarded \$2,000 scholarships each to four students enrolled in San Jose State University's aviation program - Alejandro Ramirez, James Crawford, Antoinette Amaral and Adrian Ballesteros.

The scholarships were presented during the Aero Club's annual Crystal Eagle awards dinner.

**Alejandro (Alex) Ramirez** was awarded the 2013 James M. Nissen Scholarship.



**Aero Club Vice President Max Trescott presents scholarship to Alex Ramirez.**

(Northern Wings photo)

Ramirez was born and raised in Los Angeles, went for his first airplane ride in a Cessna 195 at age 8 and decided he wanted to be a pilot. He is enrolled in the aviation program at San Jose State University, where he is a member of two student aviation organizations, Alpha Eta Rho and Women in Aviation. He has served as the president of Alpha Eta Rho.

For the past two years he has worked as an aircraft fueler with Rabbit Aviation at San Carlos Airport, which with student loans finances his college education. A

scholarship from the Flying 20 flying club helped him start flight training. Funds from this scholarship will help him complete training for his private pilot certificate. He will graduate in Spring 2015 and plans to fly as a personal or private charter pilot.

**James Crawford**, a student in the San Jose State aviation program, was awarded the



2013 Robert L. Hamilton Scholarship.

He is a member and officer with several student organizations including: Alpha Eta Rho, The Flying 20 and Women in Aviation.

In 2010, he began training with the Flying 20 flying club at Reid-Hillview Airport and now has 164 hours logged as an instrument-rated private pilot. He is currently employed by Rabbit Aviation at San Carlos Airport as an aircraft fueler and line service technician.

He will graduate from SJSU next semester and plans to work as a flight instructor to gain the experience necessary to progress towards his career goal of becoming a pilot with a major airline.

**Antoinette Amaral** was awarded the 2013 Jerome T. Bennett Scholarship.

She grew up in San Luis Obispo where she attended 99s meetings and won a discovery flight after entering an essay expressing her interest in aviation. Inspired by this flight, and with the support of her parents, Amaral earned her private pilot certificate during her senior year in high school.



**Antoinette Amaral receives scholarship from Aero Club Treasurer Eric Peterson.** (Northern Wings photo)

She now attends the aviation program at San Jose State University, and is a member of two student aviation organizations -- the precision flight team and Women in Aviation at SJSU, of which she served as president.

She has worked as a dispatcher for charter operations at JATO Aviation at San Carlos Airport. Her career goal is to become a professional pilot for a charter operation. She is currently working on her instrument flight rating and will graduate from SJSU in Spring 2015.

**Adrian Ballesteros** was awarded the 2013 Aero Club of Northern California Scholarship. As a child near Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz., he was fascinated by the military aircraft that would fly over. In the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, he took his first general aviation flight.



**James Crawford receives Aero Club scholarship from Treasurer Eric Peterson.** (Northern Wings photo)

During his freshman year of high school, Ballesteros was severely injured. His long recovery delayed his graduation by three years. Afterward, he pursued a career in hi-tech sales only to find that he missed aviation, so he enrolled in the San Jose State University aviation program.

Ballesteros is a member of student aviation organizations including Alpha Eta Rho, the Flying 20 and Women in Aviation. He served as president of Alpha Eta Rho and treasurer for Women in Aviation at SJSU. He soloed in August 2013 and expects to complete his private pilot check ride this year. Following graduation in December, he plans to enroll in an accelerated flight training program with ATP Flight School to pursue his goal of becoming a corporate pilot.



**Aero Club Director Janet Hitt announces scholarship for Adrian Ballesteros, who was unable to attend the dinner.**

(Northern Wings photo)



**San Jose State University aviation students, faculty, graduates and former faculty gather at the 2013 Crystal Eagle Dinner where four scholarships were awarded to students.** (Northern Wings photo)

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## Calendar of Aviation Events

**April 3, Thursday** - Aero Club Spring Luncheon, 11:15 a.m. Michael's at Shoreline restaurant, 2600 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Lunch is \$20. Speaker will be Dr. Morton Grosser, venture capitalist, author and Bay Area aviator who will present an illustrated account of the human-powered Gossamer Airplane Project. RSVP to

[RSVP@aeroclubnorcal.org](mailto:RSVP@aeroclubnorcal.org) or (408) 634-8062.

**April 27, Sunday** - Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show, Half Moon Bay Airport, on Highway 1 five miles north of Highway 92, Half Moon Bay. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. On display vintage warbirds, classic and homebuilt aircraft and more than 2,000 antique, vintage, classic, custom and exotic automobiles and other motor vehicles. Admission is \$20 Adults, \$10 ages 11-17 and 65+ and \$5 for kids age 10 and younger. Information at (650) 726-2328 or at <http://dreammachines.miramarevents.com/>

**May 3-4, Saturday-Sunday** - Planes of Fame Airshow, Chino Airport. "Salute to the Mighty Eighth," featuring more than 40 historic aircraft flying to salute the men, women and aircraft of the 8th Air Force in World War II, as well as aerobatic performances by such air show stars as Sean D. Tucker. Information at <http://planesoffame.org/>

**May 17, Saturday** - Wings of History Museum open house, South County Airport, San Martin. Information at [www.wingsofhistory.org](http://www.wingsofhistory.org).

**May 31, Saturday** - San Carlos Airport Day, San Carlos Airport. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**June 14-15, Saturday-Sunday** - Hollister Airshow, Hollister Municipal Airport. Tickets \$15 for adults 13+. Information at [www.hollisterairshow.com](http://www.hollisterairshow.com)

**June 16, Monday** - 38th annual Air Race Classic, Concord Airport. The start of a transcontinental air race for women pilots flying general aviation aircraft. Information at <http://www.airraceclassic.org>

**August 23, Saturday** - Seaplane Adventure, Hiller Museum, San Carlos Airport. Save the date.

**Sept. 10-14, Thursday-Sunday** - Reno National Championship Air Races, Reno-Stead Airport, Reno, Nev. Information at <http://www.airrace.org>.

**September 28, Sunday** - Palo Alto Airport Day, Palo Alto Airport. Save the date.

**Sept 27-28, Saturday-Sunday** - California International Air Show, Salinas Municipal Airport. Information at <http://salinasairshow.com>.

**Oct. 11-12, Saturday-Sunday** - Watsonville Fly-In and Air Show, Watsonville Municipal Airport. Save the date. Information at <http://watsonvilleflyin.org/>

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**The Aero Club of Northern California**  
**2500 Cunningham Avenue**  
**San Jose, California 95148**  
**(408) 929-1060**

Chartered in 1981 as a chapter of the National Aeronautic Association.

-- To keep the public informed of the importance of aviation and space flight to the nation's economic progress, its security and international understanding.

--To support a vigorous aviation and space education program for students at all levels of learning.

--To recognize and honor those who make outstanding contributions to the advancement of aviation and space flight.

**Aero Club of Northern California**  
**2014 Board of Directors**

**Max Trescott** - president

**Glynn Falcon** -- vice president

**Sandra J. Clifford** - treasurer and past president

**Rick Willson** - secretary

**Ron Blake** - director

**Walt Gyger** -- director

**Janet Russell Hitt** - director

**Carl Honaker** -- director

**Ray Hutchings** - director

**Thomas E. Leonard** - director

**Eric Peterson** - director

**Terry Rinehart** - director

**Sharon K. Sweeney** - director

**Scott Yelich** - director

**Stephen Meder** -- student liaison

**Frank Sweeney** - director and newsletter editor

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