

NOVEMBER 2022 SONOMA SKYPARK FUN!

The Watsonville “Carbon Club” Barry (Blue), Jeremy (Yellow), and Rocky (Red)!



MOVING ON...

George Papich helping Ed Metcalf park his PA-24



Bob Berwick driving his 1926 Travelair



Here is the Sonoma Index-Tribune article that was written about SSP. The online version has more photos:

<https://www.sonomanews.com/article/news/sonoma-skypark-takes-flight-with-new-striping-paving/>

■ COMMUNITY ■

Sonoma Skypark takes flight with new striping, paving



Boy Scout Troops nine and 27 fill in the compass rose Design with paint provided by Sonoma Skypark. The paint colors used are typically for traffic symbols but were re-purposed for this project.

Local Boy Scouts painted the 'compass rose' on runway

By **REBECCA WOLFF**
INDEX-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

The Sonoma Skypark unveiled its newly paved runway on Sept. 14 after

a five-day shutdown.

The California Department of Transportation inspected the runway back in March, and reported that part of the runway was in "dire need

of repair." The airport put the project up for bid, and in August it was awarded to Jim Todorovitch Paving and Fine

See Skypark, A10



The skypark's newly paved runway.

Skypark

Continued from A1

Line Striping by the Skypark's board of directors and shareholders.

The airport notified pilots of the closure in its September newsletter, and put out a "NO-TAM," a notice to air missions, during the project period for any pilots who hadn't already heard.

Approximately 60 planes per week use the Skypark's runway, but with the Petaluma Municipal Airport and Napa County Airport so close, diverting the planes didn't yield any issues.

For the first three days of repair, the paving company filled cracks and seal coated the runway using an overcoat and additive seal coat. Once the repairs were complete, the striping company came in to repaint the runway lines, which was completed by Wednesday, Sept. 14.

Darrel Jones, vice president of the Skypark's Experimental Aircraft Association chapter, designed a "compass rose" to be painted on the runway that would assist pilots in calibrating the compasses in their planes. He laid out the design, which was set to the exact magnetic points by Phillip Danskin & Associates, a local surveyor.

Jones, a former Troop 27 Eagle Scout, enlisted local scout

troops nine and 27 to paint the compass rose, and learn some basic aviation skills to earn them a merit badge.

"We do all our navigating from a magnetic compass — from the dawn of flight," Jones said. "It's actually become a little bit of an attraction."

Tina Louise, manager and corporate secretary at the Skypark, has seen footage on the security cameras that show people driving up to the compass at night and taking photos, or just gazing at it with curiosity. According to Louise, it's been the biggest hit with the pilots.

Skypark has also recently started a flying club with the goal of getting 10 members to share the cost of a plane to encourage more local pilots to get back into flying at a lower cost. The Skypark has received many inquiries and is on track to get the club up and running by the end of October.

The local branch of the Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 1268, is involved in the organization's scholarship program, which helps young pilots ranging from 16 to 20 years old pay to get their pilots licenses. The Skypark's local chapter awarded two new recipients last month, matching the \$5,000 given by the association.

According to Louise, the Skypark is working on more exciting things in the near future revolving around safety.



A photo of the newly paved runway at Sonoma Skypark from above. The runway is used by approximately 60 planes per week, and was flagged during an inspection back in May as needing repairs.



A photo of the compass rose, designed by Darrel Jones, vice president of the Skypark's Experimental Aircraft Association chapter, and painted by local Boy Scout Troops nine and 27.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS ON
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2022**

REACH Concord with their larger helicopter landed 10/6/22



Cirrus Aircraft did a photo shoot on Thursday 10/20. They brought Robert “Hoot” Gibson with them to pilot the plane. If you are a pilot, chances are you have heard of this amazing man! I was honoured to meet him and have my photograph taken with him.

The photo shoot was a success and they complimented the gorgeous runway and compass rose. The whole team felt Sonoma Skypark is a marvelous and lovely airport.



TITAN requires us to test our Grounding/Bonding cable on a regular basis. Darrel Jones was nice enough to perform this test for us on Tuesday 10/25. The readings were well below the 25ohm max limit at 1.7ohms retracted and 3.8ohms extended. That is good news for all the pilots who rely on their aircraft to be properly grounded while fueling!





**Happy
Thanksgiving!**

**Sonoma Skypark
will be closed on
Thursday November 24**

Enjoy November everyone! - tina