

GFCFA

Gross Field Community Association



A Chapter of the California Pilots Association

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MAINTENANCE

Login (/web/20151023044805/http://www.marincountyairport.org/index.php/login)

Looking for the County's Airport Website? It's here:

<http://www.marincounty.org/depts/pw/divisions/airport>

[\(/web/20151023044805/http://www.marincounty.org/depts/pw/divisions/airport\)](/web/20151023044805/http://www.marincounty.org/depts/pw/divisions/airport)

Get Your Tickets NOW for GFCFA's Flying Community Dinner on October 24! SOLD OUT!!!

Tickets are on sale now for GFCFA's buffet dinner on the evening of October 24, during Pat Scanlons Gross Safety Weekend (see below). Tickets are \$25 pre-sale, \$35 at the door. We highly recommend purchasing tickets now so we can make sure we arrange for the right amount of food, beer and wine (and soft drinks/water!). Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. in the glow of the Scanlon Aviation hangar. Bring your spouse/significant other, neighbors-this is a celebration of another fantastic flying season here in Northern California!

Register Now for Upset Training Clinic, October 22-25

Pat Scanlon has announced the first 2015 Gness Field Safety Awareness Weekend, October 22-25. The weekend will start out with a Stall/Spin Awareness Seminar (an FAA Wings-eligible seminar) on Thursday evening, the 22nd, and a flying community dinner/BBQ early evening of the 24th. EAA Chapter 1232 will also be holding its' annual Young Eagles event on Saturday, the 24th.

Wrapped around this will be an Unusual Attitudes Recovery/Basic Aerobatics Clinic Friday through Sunday, October 23-25, in the cockpit of a Decathlon (and possibly a Pitts S-2) with renowned spin instructor Rich Stowell. Rich has logged over 32,000 spins (!) in over 150 types of aircraft, and will be flying with as many as six students each day after a morning safety briefing.

Click the links below to view and print the event flyer and registration form:

Gness Field Safety Weekend Flyer ([/web/20151023044805/http://www.marincountyairport.org/images/2015_Event_Summary.pdf](http://www.marincountyairport.org/images/2015_Event_Summary.pdf))

Upset Training Clinic Registration Form

([/web/20151023044805/http://www.marincountyairport.org/images/2015_S.A._Event_Registration_Form.pdf](http://www.marincountyairport.org/images/2015_S.A._Event_Registration_Form.pdf))

Parachute demonstration held Tuesday June 16

At the request of the Marin County DPW staff, Skydive Golden Gate demonstrated parachute activities at Gness Field earlier on Tuesday,



June 16 in the afternoon.

Tandem skydivers about to touchdown at Gness Field in a landing zone east of the helipad and south of the County hangars.

The NOTAM was issued shortly before the demonstration, so not too many people knew about it. Still, there were four planes in the pattern at the beginning and a couple of planes in the air who talked with the skydive pilot. About 12:30 pm, Skydive N6261A, a 1956 Cessna 182 fitted for a single pilot seat and room for skydivers, departed for the first drop from about 4,000 feet.



Participants in the demonstration: Skydive N6261A Cessna 182 in back; left to right, Michael Knight, proponent of Skydive Golden Gate and tandem instructor; Volker Haag, business partner and owner Skydive SurfCity in Watsonville; Kirby Hughes, attorney and tandem instructor; Mike Nelson, pilot.

Two jumpers, Michael and Kirby, used their personal parachutes in the first drop to descend quickly and reconnoiter the landing area, which was a grassy area about 50 feet east of the helipad between the large County hangars and the airport boundary. The first drop was announced using standard phraseology with callouts for 2-minute, 1-minute, jumpers away and jumpers safely on the ground. The second drop was a tandem jump from 9,000 feet with Michael piloting and Kirby as tandem skydiver.



Tandem skydivers about 300 feet above the landing zone.

With the larger tandem canopy, they descended much more slowly, extending the time under canopy. People on the ground could hear them talking during the descent. Winds were generally 130 @ 6-7 knots during both jumps, which perhaps provided a more challenging direction to land into the wind from over the hangars. The demonstration concluded by about 1:30 pm.

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Welcome to the GFCA Website

Gross Field Community Association (GFCA) was incorporated July 30, 2010 as a non-profit public benefit corporation. GFCA is an IRS 501(c) (3) organization, so donations are tax deductible. Our mission is to promote and protect the interests of Gross Field users, tenants, and the community, and to promote the public interest in aviation, aviation safety and service in Marin County.

The pilots that use Gross Field banded together because we believe that by combining our voices we can be heard in ways not possible as individuals acting separately. We included the word community in our name because we think that the public should know that our airport is a valuable resource for everyone, not just pilots.

The airport serves all of Marin County; it hosts the Civil Air Patrol, medical helicopters, Angel Flights and the Sheriff's Department. In addition, Gross Field provides a base for flights that serve the local business community. Those of us who base our airplanes at Gross make a significant financial contribution to Marin County and to Novato schools through personal property and fuel taxes, hangar rental and tie down fees.

We hope that you find this website useful. Your thoughts and suggestions on how we can make it more helpful are most welcome.