

**I am going to the Salinas Air Show tomorrow and am actually excited to be going. This morning I was wondering to myself, why? I have been to air shows before. I know what I will be seeing, how the day will go and most of the aircraft I will see. So why would I be excited to go?**

**To tell you the truth, (I wasn't lying before, why start now!) the older we get the less excited we get about things. For instance I still love to go to a ballgame, but nothing could match the excitement I had in my youth to go to a game. What is it about an air show that gets the blood moving?**

**For starters, flying is a big part of my life, so being around aircraft is a good thing. Being a motorcycle rider and helicopter pilot puts me in a group of people that like things that are fast, LOUD, take special skill to operate and can enable you to do things most people don't do. An air show fits right in. You have to admit that airplanes are loud, fly fast and let you do things most people don't do.**

**When I am watching the show, I am still amazed at the skill and professionalism it takes to fly the maneuvers that are being displayed for us to see. The more I fly, the more I appreciate what the flyboys and girls are doing. They are a special breed, indeed!**

**Another aspect of the air show is, I like seeing vehicles (land or air) that are in great shape. Super shiny, sleek beauties that the owners have poured their sweat and hard earned money (and lots of it too!) in to getting the aircraft in mint condition. Inside I am jealous of them. First I wish I had the disposable income to even think about owning one of these beauties. Most of all though I admire the love and dedication it takes to buy, rebuild and maintain the aircraft.**

**One of the biggest likings at the air show is the people. Yep, that's right, the common everyday person at the air show. At the air show we all have something in common, our love for aviation. Just pick**

**someone out in the crowd and ask them what they like or what their favorite plane or story is and instantly you have a friend. Have you ever met a pilot that doesn't want to talk shop? The biggest danger at the air show is getting in to a conversation with one of these enthusiasts and not being able to get away.**

**The biggest reason I think I am excited to go to the air show is that it encompasses so many good feelings, cool aircraft and great people. This brings the world to a simple time when what you see is what you get and most everything is genuine, honest, clean fun. So forgive me if I have a little trouble getting to sleep and get up before the alarm. It's ok because I am going to the air show!**