

2nd Annual NorCal EOC brunch, Sunday July 6th 2008 @ Petaluma O69, the "29'er Diner".

Well, our hearts were in the right place, but the smoke was not, so after about 35 minutes and over Lake Berryessa, we decided to do a 180.

I knew that the weather at Petaluma was OK. I also knew that we would have to come back through possibly worsening conditions, so I used the "better part of valor" tenet, and turned around.

Myron Dodd was with me, and Reuben Jaks and wife, Roberta was in trail in his 'Coupe. He used his discretion to turn back before I did, and I don't blame him one bit. Over Berryessa, the visibility was no better than 2 miles, and we were at 4500'.

By the time we got back to MYV, the visibility had deteriorated to 3 miles. It was 10 miles when we left.

Bob Irwin turned around, also, and landed at MYV. Maynard tried to get above it at AUN, but gave up at 6000' and landed. Ted Lechner made it to Petaluma, but had pretty much the same visibility. He took the southern route, following I-80 to Nut Tree airport, then north over the foothills.

The next one is Colusa "Old Timers Fly-In", July 19th. We'll see how that one turns out. Hopefully CDF will have a handle on the fires by then.

Those in attendance as far as I know were; Kim Blackseth, Ted Lechner, Tiny Toni, Jim Grimes, Bob Ensley, Ralph Finch, Bud DeCastro, Joe Chitty, Bea Henke, Frank Robinson, and Chad Surmik.

The pictures were provided by Bob Ensley, Davis. The scenic shot is of the Fairfield area.

Buzzzzzzzz

Smokey Haze would have been better name for my aircraft today. Here are some pictures from Petaluma and flight over Fairfield. Sorry no colorful air shots today. Must have been the lens I was using, they all turned out smokey....

Bob
N5698F

Petaluma brunch photos - courtesy of Bob Ensley

Smoke & haze over Fairfield en-route to Petaluma;



Bob Ensley's Alon N5698F Purple Haze in foreground, and Ralph Finch & 59V in background;



Ralph Finch, Bob Ensley, Jim Grimes, Chad Surmik (?), and Toni Tony surveying Jim's Coupe.



Here's a link courtesy of Jack Saare in Clear Lake, regarding the wild fires burning throughout the state of CA, and which have affected the NorCal fly out events;
http://www.boston.com/bigpicture/2008/07/californias_continuing_fires.html