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MERCED

Welcome to our new newsletter. Periodically during the year, we will bring you up to date information about the local happenings around the airport. As we have done in past newsletters, we will continue featuring our Tenant Spotlight. For this month's Tenant Spotlight, we had the opportunity to sit down with Martin Gomez, owner of Colimair Aviation Services. Martin is a li- censed A&P and has been an avia- tion mechanic for 16 years. Martin's shop is located in Hanger 16, on the north east side of the airport. Follow his story on Page 2.*

In addition, we sat down with heli- copter pilot James Klatt. James flies for Air Methods, the largest air medical emergency transport pro- vider to the country. Air Methods

has been operating out of Merced Regional Airport for six years and is currently expanding their operations by building a new alert facility at the airport. Under contract with the County of Merced, Air Methods provides quick air support to numerous hospitals here in the San Joa- quin Valley and else where. Fol- low Air Method's story on Page 3*

We hope that you enjoy the new layout, and the information pro- vided.

Merced Regional Airport pro- vides commercial airline service to Los Angeles International and McCarron International in Las Vegas daily.



Merced Regional Airport

20 Macready Drive
Merced, CA 95341
Phone: 209-385-6873
fax: 209-385-6880
www.flymercedairport.com



Great Lakes Airlines

1-800-554-5111
or
Merced Ticket
Counter
209-383-4000



Tenant Spotlight: Martin Gomez of Colimair Aviation Services

With no more than hard work, the ambition to travel the world and a bit of luck, Martin Gomez, owner of Colimair Aviation Services, has been able to open his own shop in Hanger 16. "I have worked hard for what I have. Sometimes bad experiences can consume you....but I have found the only way to continue is not let it get me down and do what I love", explains Martin in a calm and metered voice.

Martin did not always know what he wanted to do, but he knew he wanted to travel the world. Martin was born in a small town in the state of Colima, Mexico, a couple hours south of Guadalajara — this is where the name of his aviation shop derives its name, a mix of "Colima" with "Air" to form Colimair.

After spending six years in the Mexican military as a Lieutenant, he found a calling for travel, and left the military in order to come to America in search of adventure. He arrived to California, and started to work in the farm fields but his love of travel led him to take a job in the mining fields of Nevada. Once there, his company offered their workers the opportunity to attend college and earn a degree. Martin jumped on the opportunity, and four and half years later earned a degree in Mining Engineering.

But still, Martin had a yearning for California, so he left Nevada and returned to the area. He quickly got a job in landscaping and started to work. His strong work ethic attracted Tom Lopes, Owner of TDL Aero/Gateway Air Center, and he offered Martin a small weekend job moving parts, and sweeping the floors around his shop. Immediately, Martin fell in love with aviation, and within 36 months

earned his Airframe and Power Plant (A&P) license.

After working sixteen years at TDL Aero/Gateway Air Center, Martin wanted to try something new. At the time, he had an entrepreneurial spirit, and decided to open his own shop at Turlock Municipal Airport. While in Turlock, he cared for the community, and wanted to share his passion for aviation with youth, so he hosted events offering discovery flights, food, and music to the public. While working at his shop in Turlock, he reconnected with Tom Lopes and found out there was an opportunity to move his shop to Merced Regional Airport. Without much hesitation, Martin moved his shop to Hanger 16 where he has now been servicing airplanes for over three years.

When Martin discusses his experiences, he is very grateful of the opportunities he's had. He is thankful for his colleagues' help and advice for putting him in the position he is in today....."I would not be here today if it were not for Tom Lopes, Rick Eason and Fred Salvatori. They opened the doors for me in the aviation world, and I'm very grateful"

From the time of his youth to today, he has worked hard to achieve his dreams. He is currently working on a Cessna 210 and enjoys a host of customers wanting his expertise and experience. Martin is a busy person, who spends the majority of his time at his shop. You can find Martin in Hanger 16, just down from TDL Aero/Gateway Air Center, or you can reach him anytime at (209) 564-6190 or by email at Colimairaviation@aol.com.

Story By David Lopez-Tapia

AVAILABLE HANGARS



Bldg 4, Hangar #6 ***
32' x 25' x 8'
\$147

Executive T hangar *
39' x 30.6' x 11'
\$185

Executive I T hangar *
40' 9" x 33' 6" x 11'
\$214

Building 22 **
42'5" x 35'5" x 11'5"
\$450

Building 23 **
42'5" x 35'5" x 11'5"
\$450

* No electricity

** New box hangars, electric doors and outlets, lightning and fire suppression

*** Open bays with electrical outlets



Air Methods: The Nation's Largest Air EMS Service in Merced County

A new Bell 407 helicopter sits standing by on the tarmac waiting to save a patient's life. At a moment's notice, a pilot, flight nurse, and a paramedic can board the sleeping helicopter and immediately be airborne to assist at an accident scene anywhere in the area. At the scene of an accident, the roar of the blades can be heard from a distance, a blue angel in the sky which brings relief and help to those injured. Literally within minutes, patients can be flown to nearby trauma centers to be treated, and is able to live another day because of Air Method's quick response and well trained crews.

Now operating for over six years at the Merced Regional Airport, Air Methods is the exclusive provider under contract with the County of Merced to provide emergency medical service to the area. Air Methods is also known and still operates under the name Mercy Air Services. Today, both names appear on the helicopter.

Although Air Methods primarily serves the County of Merced, the service area for the Merced base can be as far north as Sacramento, south to Los Angeles, east to Yosemite and west to San Francisco. Since Air Methods can cover such a large area, a mutual aid agreement exists with both Fresno County and Stanislaus County. If bases in those counties are committed elsewhere, the Merced Air Methods air ambulance can respond in their absence.

Four pilots, four nurses, and four paramedics rotate shifts 24/7, 365 days. Once airborne, the paramedic and the nurse work together to keep the patient alive. The nurse is licensed and has the highest level of emergency medical training available,

and can go into the hospital with the patient if needed. The onboard paramedic concentrates on the trauma scene work...similar to an on ground paramedic.

On a day-to-day basis, there is typically one emergency response from dispatch. In an average month, thirty patients are airlifted to hospitals. However, in busier months, fifty patients or more have been known to be airlifted. Compared to other bases, Merced is one of the busiest air ambulance services in California.

By being centrally located in Merced, the air ambulance is able to provide quicker transportation to surrounding hospitals. Depending on the status and injuries to the patient, and specific hospital specialized capabilities, the air ambulance can airlift patients to the most appropriate hospital facility.

For instance, a burn victim will be flown to UC Davis in about 40-45 minutes. Patient's with severe limb issues will be flown to San Francisco in about 40-45 minutes. And if neither of these issues apply, the patient can be flown to Memorial Medical Center or Doctor's hospital in Modesto.

Started in 1980 by Roy Morgan, Air Methods has a work force of 4000 employees. Headquartered in Englewood Colorado, the company has at total of 418 helicopters and fixed wing aircraft stationed in 311 locations serving 45 states.

Air Method's is the nation's largest provider of air medical emergency transport services and systems.

Story By David Lopez-Tapia

FOR THE PILOT: Important Information



CTAF/UNICOM:

122.7 MHz

WX ASOS

132.175 MHz

(209-381-0926)

NORCAL APPROACH

120.95 MHz

NORCAL DEPARTURE

120.95 MHz

LAT/LONG:

37-17-05.0230N/

120-30-49.9890W

37-17.083717N/

120-30.833150W

37.2847286/

120.5138858 (est.)



Mauvia Air Tours operating at the Merced Regional Airport.



Small town homecoming more intimate at Merced Regional Airport. Under close observation by TSA Agents and Airport staff, a local soldier was greeted by 40 family members on the ramp!!!
Thank you for your service.



GREAT LAKES AIRLINES FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Merced to **Los Angeles**

Freq	Departs	Arrives	Flight
Daily	6:23am	8:05 am	7161
Daily	1:55pm	3:37pm	7167

Los Angeles to Merced

Freq	Departs	Arrives	Flight
Daily	8:21 am	10:08 am	7162
Daily	4:30pm	6:17 pm	7162

Merced to **Las Vegas**

Freq	Departs	Arrives	Flight
Daily	10:18am	11:48 am	7162
Daily	6:27 pm	7:57 pm	7169

Las Vegas to Merced

Freq	Departs	Arrives	Flight
Daily	12:15pm	1:45pm	7167
Daily	8:30pm	10:00pm	7200

New FAA Safety Briefing Issue Now Available

The January/February issue of *FAA Safety Briefing* is now available online at www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/. This first issue of 2012 explores some of the resources available to help you in your initial quest for pilot certification, as well as the life-long quest to improve your aeronautical knowledge. Feature articles show you how to leverage the information power of aviation regulations and handbooks as well as provide tips to help prepare for your next checkride and find an aviation school that's right for

AROUND THE AIRPORT



Gateway Air Center, LLC
(209) 722-7300
Gatewayaircenter.com



AVIS Car Rental
(209) 724-9114



The Hangar BBQ/ Cafe
(209) 384-1963



Colimair Aviation
(209) 564-6190
flycolimair.webs.com



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