



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

April 2013

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month's meeting featured Jim Terpstra, who gave us a little insight into the new navigation technologies that are emerging for pilots.

It looks like our old meeting spot at the Terminal Building is gone for good since the reconfiguration of the Terminal. A company called Set Jet is going to turn it into a sort of uber lounge. Their business plan is to sell individual seats on corporate planes where you just pay for the seats you use and other people will buy the other seats. This concept is the same as the now defunct Day Jet that had a fleet of Eclipse mini-jets in Florida. We are going to use the Scottsdale Airport Business Center (ABC) as the future home for all our meetings.

In order to accommodate the number of folks we have at the meetings I am asking you to show up a little early at the meetings so we can stack the tables and move in a few extra chairs. After listening to some constructive suggestions, we are going to go back to using our PA system so everyone can hear.

In May, we have our traditional Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 Fly-In / Drive-In at Deer Valley Airport. This is always a well attended event and is a great way to look at some cool planes and do a little hangar flying while having a nice picnic lunch.

One of our Chapter members has turned off the lights in his workshop and graciously donated a partially completed Mitchell U-2 to our Chapter. Jerry Lane and I picked it up last month and it will be at the hangar party in May. Included are the plans, wood, foam, and construction notes. The spars, ribs, and tip rudders are completed and we are looking

for ideas on finishing it or helping a Chapter member get a jump start on a well proven design.

See you at the April meeting

Curtis

APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

The April meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, April 18, in the Scottsdale Airport Business Center. The start time is 7 pm. This month's guest speaker is Chapter 1217 member Dr. Jim Beauchene.

Many of you will remember when Jim told the story of flying his DeHavilland Beaver from Scottsdale to Ontario, Canada with his son to visit the lakes he fished on with his Dad when he was a kid. Jim has taken his passion for seaplanes and fishing to a new level and purchased a fishing camp on a remote lake in Ontario. Since the only way in is by seaplane, he had to start his own airline to service the lodge. It's a great story and I am sure Jim will tell it in his unique style.

If you want learn a bit more before the meeting go to www.McCuskerLake.com, then dust off the old fishing rod and sign up for adventure!

Guests are always welcome!

MAYDAY CHAPTER FLY-IN

Saturday May 11, 1100-1400, will be the time and date for the annual Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 MAYDAY FLY-IN / DRIVE-IN. Jack Pollack will again host this year's event at his Deer Valley north side hangar 31-08.

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Things get underway around 11am with planes arriving and setup. There are plenty of parking spots for planes right in front of Jack's hangar. If you are driving in please don't park on the ramp. Be sure to bring wheel chocks and lawn chairs. At noontime we will be having an old-fashioned hangar cookout.

This year the Chapter will spring for the burgers, fixin's and drinks. You just need to bring something to share that doesn't need to

be cooked, heated or butchered. Examples are salads, desserts, and chips.

Everyone is welcome, so bring your family and friends.

If you are driving in, go to the north perimeter road, then go to the west entrance for the hangars. Signs will be posted. It might be a good idea to bring lawn chairs to sit on.

All arriving pilots are requested not to use the word **Mayday** in any communication with the tower.



Jack Pollack's Swick T is making a visit to the Super Finishers Skunk works for final welding of the wing struts.

GILA BEND FLY-IN TO FEATURE CANADIAN SNOWBIRDS

The Gila Bend Airport is hosting a Fly-In on April 20. They want to get the word out that they are inviting aircraft owners to display their planes. There will be a donation only barbecue the night before the event (on the 19th), and a pancake breakfast at 6 am in the morning on the 20th for \$3.

As an option, pilots can camp under the wing or book hotel rooms, and the airport manager will shuttle pilots to town. Also in attendance will be some of the winter visitors from Alberta that are staying in the RV park in town for the winter, not the aerobatic team of the same name!

For more info call Corey Drury, Gila Bend Airport Manager at 623-810-4662

FORMATION FLIGHT TO SEDONA

Chapter member Jordan Ross was at the T-34 Association formation clinic at DVT on the 30th of March, and was lucky enough to catch

a back seat ride with George Wilen in his T-34B on a trip to Sedona. This was a 16-ship formation flight. They had a great time and everyone got back safely.



Just after lift off at DVT

LAURIDSEN AVIATION MUSEUM

Chapter member Ray Brown stopped by Buckeye Airport and got a first-hand look at the growing Lauridsen Aviation Museum. Museum founder Hans Lauridsen has a collection of vintage airplanes scattered throughout Arizona and Chino, California. Currently the planes are being ferried into Buckeye airport for restoration. Eventual plans are to house them at the Gila Bend Airport, which has lots of unused ramp space and plenty of room for expansion. Some of the planes currently in Hans' collection include B-25, B-26, S-2, SA-16, C-45, Convair 240, PBY, L-17, L-4, Pa-18, T-28, TBM, Waco, AT-6, DC-3, L-19, PT-17, and a Cessna 206.

Check www.LauridsenAviationMuseum.com for more information and to learn how you can get involved.

BOB HOOVER TRIBUTE

Flying the Feathered Edge is a very special documentary film about aviation, innovation, ruggedness, precision, testing, excellence - - and getting it right. A small group of dedicated individuals want to preserve Bob's legacy for future generations; they call themselves the Bob Hoover Project and this is their story.

Machines alone could not have pushed the airplane forward; it took courage and out of the box thinking. This film, about the authentic life of a dedicated American and our greatest living aviator, R.A. "Bob" Hoover, shows how by pushing the edge of the flight envelope, a handful of pilots enabled aviation to be safer for others - - indefinitely.

WWII veteran and prisoner of war, Bob Hoover escaped Stalag Luft 1 and flew to

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safety by stealing an enemy aircraft. As an accomplished experimental test pilot, he participated in breaking the speed of sound and launching the world into the Jet Age. During his unrivaled international air show career, he performed for millions of spectators worldwide for over three decades.

The purpose of the film is to celebrate the spirit of the American fighter pilot, show the courage and the innovation that was essential to the birth of the jet age, and to enable the audience to relive incredible stories from a man born of simple beginnings in Tennessee who lived his dream of becoming the pilot he always wanted to be.

Accomplished test pilot, pace plane pilot for the Unlimited Reno races, air show pilot – R.A. “Bob” Hoover was considered by Jimmy Doolittle to be “the greatest stick and rudder man who ever lived.”

The Bob Hoover Project is collecting stories, images, and footage of Mr. Hoover over the years to include in the upcoming feature documentary, “The Bob Hoover Project: *Flying the Feathered Edge.*”

Sign up for their mailing list so you can keep in touch. “We will never, ever spam you, or do anything dishonorable with your e-mail information! We would only like to be able to keep you updated on our documentary film project, slated for completion later this year, and share other photos and video clips, and let you know about our release dates.”

Go to www.theBobHooverProject.com. Enjoy their site, new trailer, and they hope to hear from you!



Formation Flight Underway to Sedona



George and Jordan at Sedona

SPRINGERVILLE AIRPORT EAA 1412 FLY/IN

The Springerville Municipal Airport and EAA Chapter 1412 will be hosting a Pancake Breakfast and, Airport Terminal Building Grand Opening on May 4. Besides great food and a ramp full of interesting planes the EAA Chapter folks will be doing Young Eagle flights.

If you are thinking of flying up and interested in giving a couple of Young Eagle rides give Phil or Candy Cook a call at 928-245-0466 or philcancook@frontiernet.net.

DEER VALLEY PILOT SHOP TO OPEN

For the past couple of years the pilot shop in the Deer Valley Airport Terminal has been closed. There have been many rumors floating around about what the city planned to do with the space from a medical marijuana dispensary to a gun and reloading supply store.

Lucky for everyone on Saturday, February 23, 2013, the doors opened to Tee-Bird Air, Inc. Tee-Bird Air carries the items that pilots need such as charts, aviation books and reference guides, flight bags, professional pilot clothing, communications gear, along with unique aviation gifts. Plans are underway to also stock aviation oil and related items in the near future.

The owner of Tee-Bird Air is Jim Modeste. Jim is an Instructor Pilot for the Airline Training Center Arizona, Inc. at the Goodyear-Lufthansa Airport in the southwest valley. He was a Navy pilot and graduated from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

For more information stop in for a visit or check out www.teebirdair.com

Some of the planes seen at the 2012 Mayday Fly-In / Drive-In



Jack Pollack's Chipmunk on the line at the 2012 Mayday Fly-In / Drive-In

ThunderAds

FOR SALE, ETC.

THORP T-211

Amateur built, smooth wing, 2 seat Thorp. 400 hrs engine & airframe. Wing span 25ft., Empty weight 784 lbs, Gross weight 1270 lbs, lcom 200 radio, Garmin Transponder, Sterba wood prop, also tools. \$23,500.⁰⁰ Larry Pritchard 480-816-6214, or Brian Briggerman 480-837-6510

ESTATE SALE

Chapter member Marty Williams has flown west and his family is selling his Zenith 701 kit. Contact his son Keith at 480 998-4873.

CURTISS REED PROPELLER \$4,000 Model 55511. 82" SAE 1 taper shaft. (Warner, Ranger, Maytag 604) Patrick McGarry: 602-430-0140

PILOT PA-400ST FOUR PLACE INTERCOM

\$50- Curtis e-mail: Azskybum@aol.com

PROJECTS FOR SALE

Protech, PT-2, folding wings & trailer, 82 hp Mosler engine. & Gere bi-plane, about 75% complete, built from magazine plans, circa 1932, completely rebuilt Model A engine. Pat Wall 928-851-2244.

THREE-BLADE PROP SHIPPING BOX

Previously used for a MT prop for a Velocity. Will fit most normal size 3-blade props. Available to anyone who needs to ship a prop. Matt Bucko mbuc310@cox.net

2009 LANCAIR 360

Superior IO-360 engine, TTAFE 20 hours, mineral oil, every thing new including paint, GPS, loaded must see. Mary Shragal 630-897-7706

COMBINATION VHF/GPS ANTENNA

Comant Model CI 2480-201, Separate connectors for Comm and GPS. Never installed. See AS&S pg 616. Their price \$568.75, sell for \$250.00 Ron Kassik 480-948-0168 or ronkassik@cox.net

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Jim Berdick AI 623 293-2708

ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-3442

AIRMEN PHYSICALS

Dr. Henry Givre AME, Chapter member and RV-4 owner. 520-836-8701

BFR'S

Fred Lloyd 602-793-6637

MACHINE SHOP

High quality parts fabrication for homebuilts at a reasonable price. David Leverentz 520-898-4321

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|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------|--|
| President | Curtis Clark | 602 953-2571 | EAAChapter1217@aol.com |
| Vice President | Terry Emig | 520 836-7447 | dprez@cactusflyin.org |
| Secretary/Treasurer | Jack Pollack | 480 585-1885 | Jack.Pollack@Analyticalgroup.com |
| Newsletter Editor | Ron Kassik | 480 948-0168 | ronkassik@cox.net |
| Young Eagles | YOUR NAME HERE POSITION OPEN | | |
| Technical Counselors | Dan Muxlow | 480 563-4228 | N27DM@cox.net |
| | Jim Berdick | 623 293-2708 | jimberdick7@gmail.com |

**Thunderbird Field
EAA Chapter 1217
5450 East Voltaire
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254**

