



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

August, 2011

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Since I was off to Oshkosh last month Terry and Jack stepped in to run the well attended meeting. Mike and Steve Hosa did their presentation on WWII airfields and aux fields in Arizona. Since I didn't get to see it I will have to buy their book, it is titled: "Best Place in the Country". Thanks again to Bernie Gross for lining up the past two month's guest speakers!

When we talk to our friends we tell them about the dry heat we have and how it really isn't that bad. I had the opportunity to go out to DVT and look for some lost part last month. The outside air temp was 116 and the hangar temp inside was 137 on the south facing hangar and 134 on the north facing hangar. So this ends the discussion, north facing hangars are cooler in the summer! I was lucky in that it had rained and the hangars leak so they both had standing water along the doors so they were really pleasant to be in and it keeps the wooden props from drying out!.

After Sun-n-Fun, Arlington, and now Oshkosh, I am ready to stay home and work on my own planes. I always like to bring home some trinket from each fly-in, so at Lakeland I bought a filtered air system for painting, at AirVenture it was a new Strong parachute, and at Arlington I broke down and bought a raincoat!

I look forward to seeing everyone at the August meeting!

Curtis

AUGUST CHAPTER MEETING

The August meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, August 18th in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. Our featured guest will be Bruce Hafner who many of you have seen as the television news reporter/helicopter pilot for Channel 3. Bruce has an exciting new venture and a new helicopter he is going to bring over for us to see. Be sure and stop out before the meeting so you can get a look at it before the sun goes down. Thanks to VP Terry Emig for lining up this great presentation. We also scored some major swag at AirVenture and have some cool door prizes for the upcoming meetings.

It will be a great meeting and guests are always welcome.

AIRVENTURE

CHAPTER 1217 HAPPY HOUR

For thirteen years, Chapter 1217 members attending the Oshkosh AirVenture Fly-In have gotten together to share sightings, stories of the trip to Wisconsin and just generally have dinner with friends. This year, 22 friends and family got together and had a great time. Wendt's on the Lake is noted for its fried fish and cold beer, and no one went home hungry or thirsty!

ARLINGTON FLY-IN

By Curtis Clark

After the June meeting Bernie Gross threw out the idea that we should go to The Northwest Regional EAA Fly-In or as it is simply known now as the Arlington Fly-In. The forecast called for clear skies and 75 degrees so no need to even pack a jacket. Of course at our arrival time it was low clouds

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one-mile visibility and raining; well it is Seattle after all! We grabbed lunch at the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field and slogged our way two hours north to Arlington.

Lucky for us, Friday was a picture perfect northwest day. The event featured a full schedule of workshops and forums, more than 150 exhibitors, and an air show each afternoon. There were also food vendors and gift shops located throughout the grounds. Some of this year's attractions included the B-25 Mitchell bomber *Maid in the Shade* from the Arizona Wing of the Commemorative Air Force. It replaced the wing's B-17 that was a no-show.

Also featured was a fully restored 1928 Boeing 40C; a full-scale reproduction of a 1933 Stinson Model O; and Clay Lacy Aviation's DC-2, the only flying example in the world; as well as numerous homebuilts, vintage, LSA, ultralights, and warbirds.

Coinciding with the Arlington Fly-In this year again was the West Coast Cherokee Fly-In. Karl Bergey, designer of the Piper Cherokee, attended the event and was the keynote speaker on Friday night.

AIRVENTURE PART ONE

Part two will follow next month with a bunch of exciting pictures!

This year's AirVenture Fly-In had one thousand percent better weather than last year. The big theme was the 100th birthday of United States Naval Aviation. There were Navy planes of all types parked around the airport many which I had never heard of before. There was even a replica of the 1911 Curtiss Pusher that was the first naval airplane.

One reason that so many homebuilders came to AirVenture this year was to help pay tribute to Burt Rutan and Chris Heintz, both prolific designers of homebuilt aircraft. Now retired, both of these gentlemen have collectively designed more than 40 different models of aircraft aimed at the homebuilder market, with nearly all of them in attendance. By

Wednesday, there were more than 200 Rutan-designed or -inspired aircraft on the field, and by show's end, 60 was the count for Zenith. Chapter 1217 member Jim Timm flew his Zenith all the way to Oshkosh and was one of the featured best of types on Conoco-Phillips Square.

Probably the strangest thing to come out of Oshkosh was the Cirrus painted in US Air Force colors, apparently the Air Force ordered a bunch of them for primary training. You can bet there will be more than a few of these showing up at warbird parking at fly-ins around the country! The SR20 on Air Force duty will be called the T-53A. I personally thought this was a joke dreamed up by some of the Navy pilots in attendance but apparently it is a true story.



Chapter 1217 Members Enjoying Discussion and Wisconsin's finest deep-fried Lake Perch



Knight Twister on Display at AirVenture



Jim Timm and Brian Briggerman by Jim's Zenith on display at AirVenture

EAA'ERS & ROCKETEERS

Well, amazingly, three years have passed since Dan Linehan's book *SpaceShipOne: An Illustrated History* was first published. And now his new book, *Burt Rutans Race to Space*, has just come out. Whereas *SpaceShipOne* was focused primarily on the spacecraft itself, *Race to Space* is more of a causal study of Burt's engineering evolution and his designs over the years. The book also covers British billionaire Richard Branson's new *SpaceShipTwo* and has a cool Q&A with him.

Commercial astronaut Mike Melvill wrote the foreword, and so far the author has received some very nice blurbs and reviews of the book from Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, NASA astronaut Hoot Gibson, members of the Scaled Composites team who built *SpaceShipOne* and *SpaceShipTwo*, and others as well. You can read some of what they had to say on the website, which is listed below. Also, you'll find notes on recent and

some upcoming events, including many at this year's AirVenture. Linehan said: "Quite frankly the book was an adventure to write on many different levels. I hope if you get a chance to take a look at the book, you'll enjoy it." To get your own copy contact Dan Linehan at www.dslinehan.com



Commemorative Air Force's B-29 Superfortress at AirVenture

NOW THIS IS COOL

Long time Chapter 1217 member, Jerry Lane, has some great stories about flying and airplanes. While his present day job is flying a Beech Jet out of Scottsdale Airport, he has about the most grassroots aviation background anyone can have. The other day Jerry was showing me the Schweizer 1-26 he is restoring and said, "Hey you want to look at some airplane pictures?" It turns out he grew up on an airport in Ohio where his family ran an FBO that offered flight training in powered and gliders as well as rebuilding planes when the snow got too deep to fly. All the planes he rebuilt and got to fly are a story for him to tell but what was really interesting for me were the stories he has of his Father.

His Dad was literally Mr. Aviation in the part of the world he lived in. He taught people to fly and was a designated Pilot Examiner. He rebuilt the planes they flew and came from a time when if you wanted something done right you did it yourself. This man wasn't an outlaw as some old timers were and actually has

received awards from the FAA and State of Ohio for his contributions to aviation.

This year he decided to fly his new light sport plane to Oshkosh and made the trip through some pretty nasty weather both coming and going. Perhaps the coolest things to me was when Jerry was talking about the planes his Dad currently owns. He talked about his two Taylorcrafts, the LSA, couple of Cessna 172's, and of course he has a Wright Flyer in the back of the hangar. After I picked my jaw off the floor he said it's true he actually has a replica 1905 Wright Flyer Model B that he flies when the conditions are just right. He doesn't promote it or grandstand at air shows and on TV, he just flies it up and down the runway at the airport he lives on. It has over 200 flights mostly one-way trips down the runway surrounded by acres of beautiful Ohio farmland.

Jerry's Dad will be 87 on August on the 26th, he probably will be out flying, maybe taking the Flyer for a hop or two!



Jerry Lane with his Dad, in his Dad's Replica 1905 Wright Flyer Model B



Farmers Zeppelin at AirVenture

THUNDERBIRD FIELD TOWER RESTORATION

Forwarded by Tod Dickey

Actor and World War II bomber pilot Jimmy Stewart was a legend. So were Henry Fonda and Cary Grant. What may not be widely known about these three legendary actors is that they were instrumental in establishing Thunderbird Field, a military airbase used for training Allied pilots during World War II. The field eventually became part of the Army Air Corp and is widely considered the precursor to Luke Air Force Base.

After the conclusion of the war, the property was sold as surplus for educational purposes, eventually becoming Thunderbird School of Global Management. The community saw the need to create a place to educate returning WWII veterans for business careers in the United States and overseas. With the help of retired U.S. Army Air Force Lt General Barton Kyle Yount, the site at 59th Ave and Greenway was converted to a graduate school specializing in international management.

As the world's number one international business school today, Thunderbird has always held its days as a military airfield in high regard. In fact, the school has maintained many of its original military-related buildings, including the Air Control Tower. For 60 years, this iconic structure has served as officers' quarters, administrative offices

and gathering place for the Thunderbird community. Unfortunately, the Tower was slowly deteriorating and closed due to structural issues in 2006.

Never a campus to pass on a challenge or forget its past, in 2009 several innovative alumni and staff set on a two-year mission to restore the Tower for a new generation of students and as a beacon of pride for Arizona.

As the Tower restoration project nears its public dedication on November 11, 2011, it's not too late to add your name to Thunderbird's legacy alongside Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda and Cary Grant. Through September 9, all donors of \$20 or more will have their name added to the permanent donor list on the wall in the newly renovated Tower.

Please help continue the legacy of this iconic Glendale landmark by becoming a Tower sponsor. To make a donation visit www.GlendaleAZ.com/Mayor and click on *Thunderbird Tower*.

This is the first of only two e-mails that will be sent. The next will be the official invitation to attend the public dedication of the renovated Tower on November 11. We hope to see you there.

EAA CHAPTER 1217 FACEBOOK UPDATE

21 people like us!

The future is here thanks to Paul Rhodes! He has been working on our "Social Media" presence with the Facebook page that he created for Chapter 1217. You can log into www.facebook.com, then search for Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 and you will find it. You can post messages and pictures about Chapter happenings, pictures of your plane, anything you like. Be sure to click on that you "*like*" this site so we know people are looking at it.



Billy Walker's "New" Stearman after it was rolled out of the Restoration Shop

STEARMAN RESTORATION SAGA

Billy is still having problems getting an Airworthy Engine for the Stearman. He e-mailed that: "It would be a flying airplane if the engine would arrive. - - a couple more weeks?"



Billy and his Engine Mechanic with the Engine that wasn't Airworthy



Here's what you missed if you didn't make it to the Chapter 1217 Happy Hour

ThunderAds

FOR SALE, ETC.

PROJECTS FOR SALE

The passing of Bud Wall requires the sale of his two projects: 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..

Glasair IISRG kit

For sale contact Paul Besing, paulbesing@me.com

BELLANCA CRUISAIR 14-13-2

Contact Ray via e-mail: classichunters@charter.net, or phone 775-671-7733. Plane is in Carson City Nevada

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. Fred 480-661-6613

CESSNA 175 Skylark

TTSN 3,304hrs Franklin O-350 220 HP TTSN 355 hrs. Constant speed prop TTSN 355 hrs. Take off full gross 300 ft, climb out 1400 fpm. Hangared at AVQ \$59,000.⁰⁰ (accepting offers) Rosie Braden 520-682-7285 billw7xh@gmail.com

1979 CESSNA 182Q

Arizona Airplane on SDL Tie Down K-137, TT 3500 hrs, Engine 1262 hrs SOH, recent interior upgrades & wing tip replacement. Bill Maxey 602-820-5722 maxeybill@hughes.net

PARTS

Fuel pump core, 23psi, Dukes Inc total time 18 hrs. Inline fuel filter, 3/8", Performance Mfg, tt 18 hrs. Slick magneto model 4771, tt18 hrs. Fred 480-661-6613

1995 JABIRU ST

Two place, 3300 cc Engine, 10 hrs. Total Time Make Offer Al Ross cell: 602-320-7498

GRENGA GN-1 AIRCAMPER PROJECT

Biplane conversion but can be switched to a parasol. Fuselage covered and Elizado Tigre engine installed. \$6,000.⁰⁰ Estate sale. Contact Lesley Morgan 480-834-4831 or e-mail Curtis at EAAChapter1217@aol.com to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

SERVICES

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION, ETC.

Fred Gorrell Designated Pilot Examiner:
Airplane: Private, Commercial, Instrument, ATP, ME.
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602-942-2255, Cell 602-418-2045, fgorrell2@cox.net

HOMEBUILT AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION

ABDAR Gary Towner 928 535-3600

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BFR'S

Fred Lloyd 602-793-6637

MACHINE SHOP

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

AIRCRAFT INTERIORS AND COVERS

No job to small! Kim 480-396-0688
interiors@airwestinc.com

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**Send an E-mail to:
EAAChapter1217@aol.com**

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