



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 February, 2009

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month's meeting had a tremendous turnout to learn about seaplane flying. A big thanks goes out to Jim Swedback and Tod Dickey for volunteering to put on this program. This month's meeting should be a big hit also, so plan on attending.

January was a big month for me as I finally got my Breezy in the air! It was a long time coming and it sure feels good to have it done. Of course any test flight program has its problems and I got to start right off with an engine failure at 150 feet on the first flight. It is now flying good with a squawk checked off the list on every flight. Yes it is cold, especially when the tower tells you to orbit above 4000 ft and yes it isn't for the faint hearted or those with a fear of heights! Watch for a complete report in a future ThunderWord.

We have an exciting year ahead with the Seaplane Fly-in, Cactus Fly-In, Aircraft Parts Swap Meet, and May Day BBQ.

Hope to see all of you at the February Chapter meeting.

Curtis

FEBRUARY CHAPTER MEETING

The February meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, February 19th in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. Chapter member Jim Beauchane will speak on "A Beaver on Floats Goes Home to Canada". It will be a great follow up to last month's presentation on seaplane flying. Remember, guests are always welcome!

LAKE PLEASANT

SEAPLANE FLY-IN

It is still a go for February 21st at Lake Pleasant from about 9 am to 2 pm. Jim Swedback and Tod Dickey are going to the lake this Sunday to scout out a final site selection. The intent will be to get a map of the area to you showing: the landing area, ramping/beaching/anchoring area, no-wake zones, eagle area, nearby aerobatic areas, etc. I'm also supposed to remind you that avfuel is available at Pleasant Valley Airport (P48), 5 miles to the south.

They will be using 122.75 for a frequency unless anyone has a better idea. This is the same frequency they use for the nearby north practice area and the aerobatic boxes.

Tod is looking for Chapter 1217 members who can help out with the ground duties for this one-day event. If you can help out, drop him a note at tdickey@vmiholdings.com.

Volunteers and/or equipment will be needed as follows:

- A controller with a hand-held radio for pilots to contact upon arrival at the lake for landing instructions.
- A couple of boats with hand-held radios to be available, if needed, to guide aircraft to the ramp area.
- A couple of ATV's (may have to be street licensed so they can be used in the park) to guide aircraft to the parking area.
- Someone to help cook hamburgers, etc.
- A four-wheel drive vehicle with tow straps which could be used, if needed, to tow an aircraft onto the ramp/shore.



CACTUS FLY-IN

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Fifty-first annual Cactus Fly-In will be held at the Casa Grande Airport Friday and Saturday March 6 and 7. EAA Chapter 1217 along with EAA Chapter 1445 will provide the manpower to run this great event. Last year was a perfectly run event so we will try and exactly duplicate it this year.

We need help on Thursday through Sunday. Thursday and Sunday are setup and teardown days and are only half days: Thursday in the afternoon and Sunday in the morning. Friday and Saturday the days kickoff early at 0730 for briefing and coffee. You will be given your duty assignment with Fly-in veterans teaming up with new folks, remember no experience is required. At our Volunteer Center we will have lunch, drinks and of course the famous Volunteer Fly-in shirt for those folks helping out. If you can't make the early show we have many shifts to staff throughout the day. Most people pitch in for four hours so there is still plenty of time for looking at planes. Remember there are no bad jobs! To get your VIP parking pass and instructions come to the February EAA Chapter 1217 meeting.

February, 2009

NEW MEMBER

Jim Swedback our guest speaker had so much fun at the January meeting that he joined our Chapter! He is a snowbird and splits his time between Arizona and Minnesota. He flies a yellow Super Cub on matching Wipaire amphibious floats.



photo by Kelly Morken

Bill Unternaehrer and WWII B-17 pilot Vincent Dailey prepare for flight

B-17 PILOT TAKES TO THE SKIES

On January 25th, I had the pleasure and honor to take Mr. Vince Dailey a ride in my Skybolt. Mr. Dailey is an ex-USAF pilot that flew a plane perhaps recognized by some of you, the B-17 bomber. Vince was the winner of a ride in my Skybolt that I donated to an organization called Tumbleweeds. The organization helps young people in need and Vince's daughter had bid on the ride. Vince had trained and was ready with shots and departure time but never went overseas as the war ended in Europe before he was scheduled to leave. He was deferred from combat duty as he had a brother killed in an aircraft accident (in Yuma I believe) but waived the deferment and volunteered to go to war.

The Skybolt is not easy to get into but Vince did a wonderful job. So off we went into the wild blue yonder for a ride around the area and a few clearing turns and lazy eights. Vince and I will do this again as he enjoyed it very much but the air was a bit bumpy so we cut it short to try for another day.



Curtis Clark's Breezy NX1903 flies after being in the shop for ten years!!

DEER VALLEY SELF FUELING

Sibran Deer Valley is up and running with 100LL Avgas Self-Serve at the Deer Valley Airport. The man behind the project is Dan Olsen who, besides building the self fueling station, is a homebuilder, having built and continues to fly a Lancair 320, N320DK.

If you are used to the high prices that the FBO's charge at Scottsdale and Deer Valley it will come as a pleasant surprise that Sibran's current fuel price is \$3.37/gal (or \$3.27 with a Chevron or Texaco gas card).

GARMIN/XM USERS

Thanks to Dean Gilderoy for contributing a more cost effective method of updating your Garmin GPS. He originally purchased the one-year subscription to the Jeppesen database updates. He contacted XM regarding some billing issues and they kindly advised him of a program they have for all Garmin aviation products (not just the portables). They have what is called an "End of Season Package" which allows you to call them and have your unit deactivated, for no additional charge, and your billing cycle will stop until you call them to reactivate your unit. There is also no reactivation charge and there

is no limit how many times you can do this. The gentlemen on the phone must have been a pilot because he gave this scenario: "Your airplane is down for maintenance or your 396/496 will be sitting in your flight bag for a week or so, call XM and tell them to deactivate your account and it's done, no strings attached. Then, when you're ready to use the GPS again, call XM and tell them to reactivate. It's that simple.

Basically, it is a "pay as you play" system and the only catch is you do have to call and do the activation process (takes about a minute). Again this is for both portable and panel-mount units. I called XM back and confirmed this with another customer service agent. Feel free to call and verify for yourself.

Here is the procedure:

1. Obtain your units registration number and have it ready.
2. Call XM @ 1-800-985-9200, direct number, no selections will have to be made.
3. Tell the agent you would like the "End of Season Package"
4. Deactivate or reactivate your service.
5. Double-check to make sure there will be no additional charges.



Larry Keeling's RV-8 Cockpit



Keeling's RV-8 is Nearing Completion

180 DAY PARACHUTE REPACKS

Based on new reliability data from U.S. military, foreign aviation authorities, and the parachute industry, the FAA has made the rule modification that the packing interval can safely be increased from the current 120 days to 180 days. If your parachute has an electronic altimeter that uses a battery it still has to be replaced on its separate schedule.

DISPLAY MODELS

Jordan Ross reports that one of the men where he works is handling an estate sale of approximately 30 model airplanes, most of them are World War II types. These are the non-flying carved wooden display models on mounting stands. They are various scales. These models usually retail in the \$150.00 to \$200.00 range but are being sold for less. For additional information interested parties should contact Neil Slater at: slatern1@scottsdaleins.com.

RIMROCK AIRPORT HOUSE FOR SALE OR RENT

Mike Muetzel sent along a note reminding folks that his house at Rimrock Airport is still vacant. He will rent it unfurnished for \$1000/mo. The renters do not have to have an airplane but it has a really nice hangar.

He is currently asking at \$399k if you are interested in buying and it can be checked out at www.2476commandercourt.mysite.com

THE FLYING SKILLET

Glendale's airport restaurant is once again open under NEW management. The name of the cafe is: "The Flying Skillet". Several members have reported that they were pleasantly surprised! All new inside and out. Very refreshing and CLEAN! The menu selection is good, open from 6am - 3pm, 7 days a week. For breakfast, they ordered one of the menu omelets (everything was in it) and it was delicious. On Friday's, they have a fish fry "All you can eat" for dinner and they stay open til 8pm.

Service was GREAT and the staff/owners were very pleasant with a good/fun personality. They said they would definitely go back and recommend that you go check it out yourself!

GREAT FLYING STORIES

If you happen to enjoy reading and like great flying stories you are encouraged you to check out: "Cloud Dancer's Alaskan Chronicles" a (so far) two volume series of hysterically funny arctic Alaska flying adventure tales! These are the true stories of the author's misspent youth in the Great Land starting when he was aged 19 in 1973.

You'll laugh 'til your sides ache reading these airborne antics. Check 'em out at www.cloud dancer.org

GREAT ARIZONA CHILI COOKOFF

McMullen Valley Chamber of Commerce



Chili Cookoff, Salsa Competition, Off-Road Poker Run, Art Show, Car Show & More!
 Indian Hills Airpark ~ Salome, Arizona ~
 February 21st, 2009 8 AM to Dusk

NASA SAFETY REPORTING

I have heard that some Chapter members have availed themselves of the NASA forms when they forgot something and ran the risk of getting caught. On the lighter side of NASAP, here are some of the better quotes from 2008 NASAP reports (in no particular order):

1. "The supervisor quickly determined that the problem was the nutcase captain."
2. "We were simultaneously running out of ideas, space, and time."
3. "Check, check, and double check. If you're tired, check again."
4. "The FO said a not nice word."
5. "The fatigue was combined with the normal drama of flying from the east coast to DTW."
6. "We seldom reflect on the gift of friction."
7. "decided to make one more approach ...approach a success...yea team..."
8. "Any pilot that does not use Dispatch is out of their mind."

9. After a passenger soiled himself: "This just goes to show you that s*@% happens."
10. "Row 24 D, E, F throw up on floor and backside of row 23. Corrected by GROSS."
11. "I heard the FO express some consternation."
12. "We chewed on this bone until there was nothing left but dust."
13. "At 80 knots, I came out of reverse and maintained hard braking. The aircraft just kept going and I thought, 'Wow. This is just like the simulator.'"
14. "Please call TRACON upon landing,' are not words that bring warm fuzzies to a pilot."
15. "Folks in the hotel room next to me were making love, and I forgot my earplugs. Big mistake."
16. "In flying into LGA, there were 151 NOTAMs listed for the destination and alternate airport. A bit excessive, don't you think?"
17. "I like to avoid peril."
18. "FOD in crew meal."
19. "People don't like facts that interfere with their opinions."
20. "FO: 'The gear is not up.'... CA: 'S&#%#,' or something like that."
21. "You just can't have 4-5 aircraft on the runway and be cleared to land."
22. "The Pitts passed our right wing at 1 mile, flying straight up and performing a hammerhead stall. Very impressive."
23. "I called the Chief Pilot for guidance, who is in my speed dial."
24. "Never let ATC control your throttles."
25. "He replied, 'It will be fine.' It wasn't."
26. "There were a few birds on the runway, and one unfortunate one decided to turn the wrong way."
27. "Let's not rush because that's when I make my best mistakes."
28. "I recommend having another aircraft in front of us to hit all the birds."
29. "There did not appear to be any damage to the aircraft, but the bird was a total loss."

30. "During the last 1000' of the climb, I asked the captain a question, just casual conversation. Mistake."

31. "It's not easy presenting myself as the main course at a threat and error management buffet, but I submit this report so that others may learn from my mistakes."

32. "Must not have violated any DCA airspace, as no police met us at the gate."

33. "Anytime the ATC controller calls and starts asking questions, it's not a good thing."

34. "Coulda, woulda, shoulda..... I tried to do the math for the descent point, but my 'Rainman' skills failed me.....Shoulda gone with the FO's instinct to keep it simple."

35. "A flock of birds flew up just as we crossed the threshold. Tower confirmed the remains of 7 ½ birds scattered on the numbers."

36. "As a whole, I've noticed a general reluctance in all pilots to keep control of the aircraft when some sort of distraction comes up."

37. "I should have briefed the FO to avoid hitting birds."

38. "The captain noticed a red company pickup truck drive up to the aircraft, and stated, 'That can't be good.' He was right."

39. "The problem with distractions is that you don't know you're being distracted until it's too late."

40. "As we were painting the thunderstorms on RADAR, a hook appeared. We decided we shouldn't fly through it."

41. "Retirement - I can see it, smell it, but I just can't reach it yet."

Thanks for an exceptionally safe and well-flown 2008, and best wishes for a great 2009 from your NASAP Staff!

AIRSHOWS AND FLY-INS FOR 2009

Below is a listing of a number of great Fly-Ins and Airshows that will occur in the first half of 2009.

- 03/06-07 CACTUS FLY-IN, Casa Grande AZ
- 03/13-14 MCAS Yuma Airshow, Yuma AZ
- 03/14 NAF El Centro Airshow, El Centro CA
- 03/21-11 Luke AFB Airshow, Glendale AZ
- 03/28 Riverside Airport AS '09, Riverside CA
- 05/16 Armed Forces Day Parade, Torrance CA
- 05/16-17 Planes Of Fame AS 2009, Chino CA
- 05/22-24 Watsonville Fly-In & Airshow, Watsonville CA
- 05/25 Terry Emig turns **FIFTY**, Honolulu, HI
- 06/06-07 Ramona Airshow, Ramona CA
- 06/12 Golden West Reg'l Fly-In Olivehurst CA
- 06/27 High Country Warbirds Fly-In, Valle AZ

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Chapter Website: www.ThunderbirdField.org

ThunderAds

FOR SALE

BENDIX/KING KLX-135A COM/GPS

(VFR) in excellent condition. Comes complete with tray, antenna, connectors, manuals, and 2008 USA data base installed. Selling because it is not compatible with RV-9A TruTrak auto-pilot. Asking \$1,500.00. Bob Kruse 480-391-1228

CONTINENTAL IO-360 ENGINE.

Newly overhauled, ported and polished with ceramic pistons (210 Horsepower). Overhauled by Performance Engines in La Verne, CA. Accessories include starter, alternator, single magneto, and exhaust. Originally built up for an RV-10, however, Vans decided not to support this Continental engine option. Great engine for an experimental aircraft. Price negotiable--make reasonable offer. Bob Kruse.480-391-1228 or point9kruse@aol.com

1946 TAYLORCRAFT BC-12D

TT 2987 SMOH 196 with comm radio. Fabric tests good. All AD's OK incl new struts Sport pilot aircraft \$16,000 Call Wendel Waltz 602-770-9245 wendel@waltzmail.net

GPS LOURANCE AIRMAP1000

Large screen, b&w, easy on batteries, full Jeppson and obstruction database, all manuals and accessories included. Ideal for Sport aircraft. \$275 Wendel Waltz 602-770-9245 wendel@waltzmail.net

WHEELER EXPRESS PROJECT

\$10,000 My husband passed away and I have a complete kit that is 60% completed. Located in Fountain Hills. Bev Tall bevtall@talco.com

DIAMOND DA-40 PARTNERSHIP

Looking for partners in Diamond DA-40 based at SDL. Renzo Cataldo 480-227-3647

1979 CESSNA 182Q

Arizona Airplane on SDL Tie Down K137, TT 3500 hrs, Engine 1262 hrs. SOH, interior upgrades & wing tip replacement underway. Bill Maxey 602-820-5722 maxeybill@hughes.net

RV-10 PROJECT

Switched to an RV-12. RV-10 emp / tail cone kit. \$2800.00 (negotiable) for the project. Savings of over \$700. Some tools that may be included if interested. Project located in Prescott, AZ. Frank Benedict c-140@juno.com 928-778-1977 H 928-899-8365 C

TEAM TANGO KIT

80% assembled in Tempe. \$24K for the complete kit and \$5k for the complete Subaru Engine, gauges Bart D. Hull 480-452-9208 (Cell)

GLASTAR PROJECT

Lycoming 0-320 engine. Located at Carefree Airport. Al Ross 480-595-9579

GRENGA GN-1 AIRCAMPER PROJECT

Biplane conversion but can be switched to a parasol. Fuselage covered and Elizado Tigre engine installed. \$6000. Estate sale. Contact Lesley Morgan 480-834-4831 or e-mail Curtis at EAChapter1217@aol.com to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

1979 CESSNA TURBO 182RG

287 SMOH, O₂, A/P, NDH Arv Schultz 602-275-1016

SERVICES

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION- BFR'S

Alan Trabilcy alantrabilcy@yahoo.com, 480-747-0349 m or 480-948-1747 h

PROP BALANCING, ANNUALS, PREBUYS

Jim Berdick AI 623-581-9152

ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-3442

AIRCRAFT WELDING AND RESTORATIONS

Evans Aviation 480-585-3119

AIRMEN PHYSICALS

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

AIRCRAFT PHOTOGRAPHY

Mike O'Connor CrashOConnor@aol.com 480-515-5105

BFR's

Fred Lloyd 602-234-1940

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

Want to see your aircraft-related ad here in the Thunderword?

**Send an E-mail to:
EAChapter1217@aol.com**



photo by Bernie Gross

Dennis Smith's Jabiru 3600 powered Sonex N446SX

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