



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 February, 2011

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month we had a very well attended meeting to hear two very different presentations. First up was Filmmaker/director Emiley Darling who gave us a behind the scenes look at her production "Stearman Stories". It was a very well done documentary with cameos by Chapter members Roger Parrish, Billy Walker, and Terry Emig, who happens to be Emiley's Uncle. The real star of the show was the old Stearman biplanes and the smiles they bring to every pilot's heart when they fire up. Emiley's passion for the story was really inspiring to everyone. Watch for the Stearman Stories on KAET Channel 8 this spring.

After a brief intermission, Michael Schrott took the stage to take us through his crossword puzzle from the January ThunderWord that hit on history of Burt Rutan and Scaled Composites. I have never seen a presentation that was formatted around a crossword puzzle, but it really came across well. For someone that thinks they have seen a lot of planes, there were lots of strangely interesting Rutan designs that I had never seen before.

The greatest grassroots aviation event in the southwest is just a couple of weeks away. The Fifty-Third Annual Cactus Fly-In will be held the first Friday and Saturday in March. Chapter members and friends will have a chance to get involved and participate in this event. Remember the Fly-In is all about the volunteers having a good time, without you this fly-in would not be possible.

On several personal notes, your President has again taken to the skies in his Breezy for several flights after a extensive layoff to figure out why the @\$#@! Engine kept quitting. I can tell you that it is a unique perspective with

nothing in front of you and no reference to pitch or roll. You can magnify this by one hundred when the engine craps out. You also have to choose your flying days because anything below seventy on the ground is very cold at pattern altitude brrrrr! I am looking forward to springtime.

The other note is that after 22 years of flying the Boeing 737 for America West / US Airways, the 737's are being sent to the bone yard in mid-November of this year. When I was a kid in Seattle I stood in our front yard and watched the first flight of the prototype, with T-33 and F-86 chase ships in formation on each wing, as it flew over our house. One thing that hasn't changed in Seattle is when Boeing test flies a new model it is broadcast live on the TV and radio. Today, I got word that after a three-month paid vacation after the last flight, I will start Airbus Captain training in February 2012.

I hope to see everyone at the February meeting!

Curtis

FEBRUARY CHAPTER MEETING

The February meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, February 17th in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building at 7pm. Our featured guest speaker will be Terry Brandt who will talk about the changes to Sport Pilot. Terry is a Pilot Examiner for Gliders, Sport Pilot, Gyrocopters, as well as Airplanes. Besides doing Pilot Examinations he has been a Test Pilot/Instructor for Groen Brothers at Buckeye Airport. This will be an educational meeting and if you are currently operating under Sport Pilot or might in the future you will want to bring your notepad.

We will also be going over the final preparations for the Cactus Fly-In as well as passing out the VIP admission passes.

As we look forward to future meetings we will have the guys from Rotorway Helicopters, a world record setting balloonist who flew from Illinois to India, and learn about the history of one of San Francisco's aviation icons SFO Helicopters. All this coming up at EAA Chapter 1217 meetings this spring!

It will be a great meeting and guests are always welcome

CACTUS FLY-IN

JUST ONE MONTH AWAY

The Fifty-Third Annual Cactus Fly-In will be held at the Casa Grande Airport Friday and Saturday March 4 and 5. 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 to 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 morning. Friday and Saturday, the day's 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, stop by the February EAA Chapter 1217 meeting.

CAPT BILLY WALKER'S INDUCTION

As you have probably heard, longtime Chapter 1217 member Billy Walker is being inducted into the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame. If you want to attend the event, some general information and point of contact follows:

Date: Saturday, March 26, 2011

Location: Flight Central Hangar at the Pima Air & Space Museum, 6000 E. Valencia Rd. Tucson, AZ 85756 / (www.pimaair.org)

Time: 5:30 PM Registration and Cocktail Hour / 6:30 PM Dinner and Ceremony

Cost: \$125 per person (a portion of this is tax deductible) / \$1,250 for a table of 10

Phoenix Bus: We will be offering bus service from the Phoenix area to Tucson. At this time we have NOT contracted this but we anticipate the roundtrip cost for the bus to be close to last year's cost, which was \$35 per person.

To obtain tickets please contact Meghan Holbrock, Executive Administrative Assistant, The Arizona Aerospace Foundation, Pima Air & Space Museum, 520-574-0462 or 520-618-4818, or email her at mhobrock@pimaair.org

GEAR UP LANDING EVENT PLANNED

Saturday, Feb 12, is the monthly fly-in at Lake Pleasant. The water level continues to rise so they are hoping to taxi up the asphalt road on what is now an island. There definitely won't be any traffic in the parking lot at the top of the island. The restaurant doesn't open until 10 am, so that will be a good time to shoot for landing.

Planning further ahead, the next Lake Pleasant dates are Saturdays March 12 and April 9. Also, the Lake is having their Adventure Day on Saturday April 30, and they are asking if some seaplanes can come and be on display. I think that it is also a Scouting event and that there will be demonstrations by the Sheriff's Dept, Coast Guard Auxiliary, etc.

There has also been talk about asking some commercial seaplane operators to come out and offer rides for a fee. It would be a great opportunity for anyone thinking about getting their seaplane rating, or a way to get your in-laws off your back if you have not given them a ride yet.

Remember our motto "*keep landing gear up!*"



MARCH 4 & 5, 2011 CASA GRANDE, ARIZONA

SUPER CUB REPLICA (LMA PLANS)

Chapter 1217 member Richard Baumann, after six wonderful years of shared passion and dreams, and more than \$20k invested, has decided to sell their almost complete Super Cub replica. So here's what they are selling: Entire airplane with Continental O-200, aircraft plans, construction logs and photos; construction tables, power tools including table saw, drill press, band saw, sander, etc.; some instruments, wing fuel tanks and PA-11 lift struts ready to be fitted.

Just needs to be inspected, covered, and finished. Not covered so you can see everything we've done -- no secrets here. Most wood and materials purchased from

Wicks. \$10,450.00. If you are interested in a great deal on a well built plane contact Rich at: 480-201-0916 or 480-272-9551 Plane is in Chandler.

FREE FAA CHARTS ONLINE

The FAA has a site that allows you to download and print, or save to your PDA various aeronautical charts. There is even a digital version of the Airport Facility Directory. The great news is that it is all free and available to anyone with a computer. The nice thing about the Airport Facility Directory is that you can enlarge the pages so they are readable by any eyeball and only need to

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select the airports you will be flying to and not carry the entire book. If you are planning a flight it might be a good idea to print up airports along your route as well as an

alternate for your destination, so if plans change you will have the information at your fingertips. Go to: http://aeronav.faa.gov/index.asp?xml=aeronav/applications/VFR/chartlist_tac



Dean Gilderoy and his son Geoffrey camping out at Red Creek north of Horseshoe Lake. The plane is a restored Cessna 175.



Geoffrey with the Cessna 175 at the Red Creek Camp Ground



Stu Bloemers Legend Cub at Red Creek

GOOD NEWS FOR ANTIQUE OWNERS & REPLICA BUILDERS

It has long been known that deep in the vaults of the FAA Certification branch are plans for almost every plane that has been certified in the USA as well as the drawing for every STC that has been issued. What is also been taken for granted is the FAA keeps these documents under lock and key, and will not release them to anyone for fear of giving away trade secrets of the original manufacturer.

Restorers of antique planes have always had a hard time accepting the FAA's view on this subject by asking what trade secrets are protected by the drawings for a 1929 biplane or an STC where the owner has been dead for fifty years. The good folks at the Antique Airplane Association decided to take the government to task .

What started as a simple FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) request on 08-22-02 became a protracted legal battle that has wound its way up through the US Supreme Court and back to the lower courts. But it's finally over. A summary judgment, by US District Court Judge Ricardo M. Urbina, could foreshadow easier access to Approved Type Certificate (ATC) drawings/data held by the FAA, for those restoring antique/classic aircraft. This

particular case involved AAA Executive Director Brent Taylor's FOIA request for the Fairchild 45 drawings/data.

That request was denied by the FAA and led to legal action against the FAA and the Fairchild Corporation (now defunct) in the pursuit of access to those drawings/data. That legal action against Fairchild and the FAA was undertaken for Brent Taylor by AAA member Michael J. Pangia, a former FAA legal counsel now in private practice. Mike has written an authoritative account of that legal battle titled "A Quest for Secret Plans; A Journey Into the Land of Oz" available for reading at www.AntiqueAirfield.com

However, even after a unanimous decision in Brent Taylor's favor by the US Supreme Court in 2008, the legal wrangling continued as the case was remanded back to the US District Court. Then on Wednesday, January 19th a summary judgment was made in favor of Brent Taylor bringing the matter to an end. Judge Urbina's decision holds that;

1. Once manufacturer authorized disclosure of its materials, they were no longer secret for purposes of FOIA's trade secrets exemption.

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2. Secret status of the materials was not restored when manufacturer revoked its authorization to disclose.

3. The materials were not commercially valuable, and, thus, did not fall within FOIA's trade secrets exemption.

This decision should help pave the way for easier access (via FOIA), for owners/restorers

of antique/classic aircraft, to the approved data/drawings that are needed to help in complying with the FAR's in the restoration and continued airworthiness of said aircraft.

"It's been a long and expensive road but if it helps to "Keep the Antiques Flying", then it will have been well worth it." Writes Brent Taylor Executive Director of the AAA.



Bernie Gross's Highlander at Vinegaroon

NATIONAL BIPLANE FLY-IN

EAA Chapter 1364 in Junction City, Kansas, is sponsoring the 2011 National Biplane Fly-In June 2-5. Biplanes from all over the nation will descend on this sleepy little Kansas town for a weekend of wind in the wires and grass runways. Yes, Grass runways! The Junction city Airport has several grass, or turf as the FAA calls them, runways that old biplanes like. Every manufacture of aircraft from the Golden Age of Flying has been represented at prior events as well as modern and homebuilt biplanes that keep the biplane spirit alive. If you need more information go to www.nationalbiplaneflyin.com or contact Jim Clark, Chairman, National Biplane Fly-In biplaneflyin@gmail.com or 785 210-7500

AIRPORT IN THE SKY (KAVX)

CATALINA ISLAND

This summer the second Saturday in each month will be a monthly Fly-In at the famed Airport in the Sky on Catalina Island off the coast of California! Planes built before 1961 get landing fees waived as well as qualifying for the California tax waiver signoff. There will be reserved tables in the DC-3 Restaurant and the old tower will be open for tours. Catalina Island is a great destination and is accessible by ANY type of plane. One time, I saw a Cri-Cri twin engined homebuilt taxi up and park. For more info go to: www.catalinaconservancy.org.

ThunderAds

FOR SALE, ETC.

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

LANCAIR 360

200 hp Cruise over 210 kts. TTAF 300 hrs. 7.7 gph @ 13,000 ft. Two time EAA Award Winner: 2004 Sun-n-Fun & 2004 Copperstate. Always hangered at home or on trips. All records, log books, invoices, and build photos. Professionally built, assisted by Chuck Brenner. \$129,000. or trade for a Bonanza. Contact Gary Heckler 602-320-4770

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

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

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. (accepting offers) Bill Braden 520-682-7285 billw7xh@gmail.com

1980 SUPERCUB PA 18

150 Lyc, TT 960 hrs, TOH 80 hrs, New lcom 210, Intercom Transponder King KT76A. External Baggage Seaplane Kit \$85,000. Don Meloche 928-951-4635, Cell 619-838-2410 E-mail winslow42@cox.net

1979 CESSNA 182Q

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

GRENGA GN-1 AIRCAMPER PROJECT

Biplane conversion but can be switched to a parasol. Fuselage covered and Elizado Tigre engine installed. \$6,000. Estate sale. Contact Lesley Morgan 480-834-4831 or e-mail Curtis at EAChapter1217@aol.com to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

SERVICES

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

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AIRMEN PHYSICALS

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

AIRCRAFT PHOTOGRAPHY

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