



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

July 2017

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month Charlie Spinelli brought us up to date on the latest ADS-B equipment as well as go over some of the problems that he has found in the system. Charlie also shared some great pictures of flying his Rutan Varri-Viggen in formation with nine other Rutan designs for a magazine article.

This month has been disrupted by being relocated from my hangars while they repaved the ramp. On July first I got the green light and am almost moved back in with a nice smooth ramp that has no cracks!

Speaking of swapping places, we finally have said good-bye to the old FAA FSDO building and are moving temporarily to the Paradise Valley Community Center. The best guess is we will be there for 13 months while the City of Scottsdale builds a new state-of-the-art terminal building and we can move back to our on-airport location. A lot of thought went into this new meeting location, and it should be more centrally located to our membership.

See you at the July meeting!

Curtis

JULY CHAPTER MEETING NEW MEETING LOCATION

The July meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday July 13th, beginning at 7 pm. **The location is the Paradise Valley Community Center, 17402 North 40th Street.** It is on the west side of 40th Street just north of Paradise Valley High School. Basically it is 1/4 mile north of Bell on 40th Street. We will meet in the large multi-purpose room. The date isn't a typo it is actually the second Thursday since so many people are going to AirVenture.

This month's guest speaker is going to be Tyler Sepp who is the President of Eagle Sport LLC. Tyler's business is located at the Glendale Airport and does flight training, rental, and sales of Light Sport Aircraft. Eagle Sport is planning to move to Pleasant Valley Airport in the near future. Tyler will bring us up to date on what the future plans for Pleasant Valley Airport are.

Guests are always welcome!

AIRVENTURE HAPPY HOUR

It has now been a 19-year tradition of Chapter 1217 members attending the Oshkosh AirVenture Fly-In to get together one evening and compare sightings and stories. This year on the first day of the Fly-In, we will have our annual AIRVENTURE HAPPY HOUR AND FISH FRY at WENDT'S ON THE LAKE. Come and join us for some traditional Wisconsin food and libations. That's on Monday, July 24, 2017, around 7 pm.

If you want to plug it into your GPS, the address is N9699 Lake Shore Road, Van Dyne, WI 54979-9703 (920) 688-5231; www.wendtsonthelake.com. They are located 3.8 miles south of the seaplane base.

GROUND IMPROVEMENTS AT AIRVENTURE

A number of changes and improvements will be coming to the grounds of EAA AirVenture Oshkosh this year to provide more comfort, service, and convenience to members and visitors. As always, many of the upgrades come from ideas forwarded by volunteers and attendees.

New this year is the Blue Barn, a destination for EAA chapters and Young Eagles, which

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Chapter 1217 brothers Pat and Mike McGarry flying the Collings Foundations freshly restored TF-51 over SoCal

will be located across from the Forums Plaza and adjacent to Aviation Gateway Park. This site will serve as a home base for events including meet and greets and chapter forums.

Other changes on the north end of the grounds include improvements to the Warbirds in Review area. Audience space will be expanded and a Quonset hut is being built to provide additional staging and support for presenters.

In the Homebuilts area a new social pavilion is being constructed as a gathering space for those camping with their aircraft. Ace's Café is also expanding with a covered pavilion for improved seating.

The activities center/craft tent is being relocated this year from its previous location in the Homebuilts area to a new space between the Fly Market and Hangar D. This move makes it more convenient for patrons of the activities center, who largely come from Camp Scholler.

Previously, on the west side of Hangar D was GES Services, which will be moving south near the Vintage and Ultralights entrance for

improved delivery from UPS and FedEx. A small service center will instead be placed outside Hangar A for attendees to pick up mail.

In Vintage, a new judging facility is being constructed along with a new charging station where attendees can drop off various electronic devices for charging. The Red Barn is receiving a little TLC and improvements for better traffic flow.

Both the flightline and Theater in the Woods will see improvement to their audio systems, and Theater in the Woods will have a new ramp up to the stage this year for better mobility.

Changes are also coming to the tram service, which is being renamed this year as the shuttle service to clear up confusion about modes of transport. Both trams and buses will service these stops, and announcements and maps for the new shuttle service will be released in the coming weeks.

All your grocery needs in Camp Scholler, (Red Barn, West Camp Store) North 40, and now South 40 will be met by stores operated by EAA whereas in years past these were

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operated by an outside vendor. These locations will be your one-stop shop for various grocery needs including ice.



Bill Unternaehrer moved his Skybolt back to DVT after having it at home for recovering. Should be flying soon!

KELCH MUSEUM TO BE BUILT IN BRODHEAD

Plans to build a new museum and education building at Brodhead, WI Airport are underway. The Kelch Aviation Museum has embarked on a campaign to raise \$1 million for the construction of a new museum and education building in Brodhead. They are already about halfway to their goal.

The museum currently houses its collection of 12 aircraft from the "Golden Age of Aviation" in six hangars at the Brodhead airport, none of which are accessible by the public during the winter months. There are also no public facilities like restrooms, or adequate parking.

In April, 2015, The Kelch Aviation Museum, Inc. purchased 2.5 acres adjacent to the Brodhead Airport that has two hangars, private access and established utilities. An access agreement with Brodhead Airport was procured to allow the museum to operate its aircraft and enjoy the established activities already on the field.

When completed, the museum will include:

- A 12,000 sq. ft. main hangar
- 4,000 sq. ft. open meeting area
- Aviation reference library
- Aviation art gallery
- 12 permanent aircraft (more on loan)
- Vintage automobiles

It will be open year-round and open to the public. Brodhead Airport is one of the last old-time grass airports in the country. It is a great place to visit during one of their many yearly flying events or just stop by because there is always something going on.

The Kelch Aviation Museum also intends to build a separate meeting space for Chapter 431 of the Experimental Aircraft Association, the host of annual fly-in events at Brodhead Airport, so that proper facilities can be used during these high-traffic, multi-day events.

ASTRONAUT JOSE JIMENEZ PASSES INTO GREAT BEYOND

Bill Dana, comedian who played astronaut José Jiménez, died at age 92 last month.

"Okay, José, you're on your way!" With those words, radioed to Alan Shepard as he lifted off to become the first American astronaut to fly into space on May 5, 1961, Bill Dana's role in NASA history was sealed.

Dana, a comedian whose performance as "José Jiménez", was bestowed the title of being the eighth of the Mercury 7 astronauts, died on Thursday (June 15). He was 92.

First created in 1959 for "The Steve Allen Show" and later appearing on "The Ed Sullivan Show," José Jiménez held several

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**Terry Emig commented: "Finally, an airplane that is my size...!
The TBF Torpedo bomber was getting its tail repainted"**

positions, including an elevator operator, a bobsled racer, a Navy submariner and a lion tamer, but it was as the shiny-space-suited, reluctant astronaut that the Bolivian character became famous (Dana was of Hungarian-Jewish ancestry in reality).

"What do you consider the most important thing in rocket travel?" asked Ed Sullivan, playing the straight man during one of Dana's better-known skits.

"To me the most important thing in the rocket travel is the blast-off," said Dana.

"The blast-off..." repeated Sullivan.

"I always take a blast before I take off. Otherwise, I would not go near that thing," Dana quipped as Jiménez.

Dana's José Jiménez routine was later released on record albums, rising to the Top 20 on the Billboard charts, which drew the attention of the real-life Mercury astronauts.

"The astronauts, especially Shepard, absolutely loved the record, and listened to it in the office after intense training sessions,"

author Neal Thompson described in "Light This Candle", his biography of the first astronaut.

"Shepard even tape recorded the album and during lulls between training exercises or during test launches at the Cape would play the tapes at full volume near the Mission Control loudspeakers."

The astronaut and comedian first met at a Cocoa Beach night club, where Shepard — from out in the audience and without the prior knowledge of Dana — took on the role of the straight man, setting up Jiménez's replies. Soon, fellow astronauts Wally Schirra and Deke Slayton joined in.

"The club was roaring as the three astronauts took turns," wrote Thompson. After the show, Dana hurried to a phone to call his producer in New York.

"Shepard and the other astronauts' fondness for Dana and his character led to José Jiménez becoming the unofficial mascot of the Mercury program. In addition to inspiring

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the 1961 launch call between Slayton (in the blockhouse) and Shepard (on top of a Redstone rocket), Dana performed at President John F. Kennedy's inaugural ball with Shepard in attendance.

Born William Szathmary in Quincy, Massachusetts on Oct. 5, 1924, Dana served as a gunner and mortar-man in the U.S. Army during World War II. Dana began his career in comedy as a page and a writer for other comedians' stand-up routines.

Later, after gaining fame in his own right, Dana became a screenwriter for television and movies, writing the Emmy-Award-winning "All in the Family" episode, "Sammy Davis Visits Archie Bunker" (1972), penning jokes for the "Donny and Marie" show (1977-1978), and co-writing the script for the "Get Smart"

film: "The Nude Bomb" (1980). Dana also had a recurring role as Angelo, brother to Sophia Petrillo (Estelle Getty) on the NBC sitcom, "The Golden Girls."

Dana also showed up as José Jiménez in a number of TV cameos, including as part of a 1966 episode of "Batman," appearing alongside the late Adam West and Burt Ward.

The character eventually fell out of favor due to pressure from Hispanic groups and Dana retired the role in 1970, but he would later reunite with the astronauts through their Mercury 7 (later, Astronaut Scholarship) Foundation, and even reprised the skit at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida for a 2002 gala celebrating the 40th anniversary of the first U.S. orbital spaceflights.



Meteor Crater

FLIGHT TO HOLBROOK

Jordan Ross was riding with Richard Azimov in his S-35 Bonanza as they flew up to Holbrook for a breakfast club flight. The group had a nice breakfast at Denny's on Navajo Blvd, across from the entrance road into the airport. The restaurant is about a quarter of a mile or so walk from the airport ramp. Their route took them close to Meteor Crater, which Jordan photographed as seen above. The picture is looking west from about 2500 agl.



On final to Holbrook Runway 21



Boom XB-1 Supersonic Demonstrator

BOOM XB-1 SUPERSONIC JET

Five airlines have ordered 76 planes from Boom Supersonic, giving the Centennial-based company developing a new supersonic passenger airliner some good news to announce at the Paris Air Show.

Boom also unveiled the completed designs of its demonstration airplane meant to prove its technology to fly passengers on long routes at 1,451 mph. The startup’s passenger plane is designed to fly 2.2 times the speed of sound, making New York City to London flights just over three hours long.

Boom Technology's XB-1 test plane is a smaller jet than the supersonic passenger plane it plans to build. The XB-1 Demonstrator aircraft, known internally as the “Baby Boom,” which will fly to conduct tests on the General Electric engines, Honeywell avionics, Tencate carbon fiber and 3D-printed components from Stratasys. Boom is assembling the XB-1 at its headquarters at

Centennial Airport in Arapahoe County, Colorado.

Richard Branson’s Virgin Airlines pre-ordered 10 supersonic aircraft from Boom. The pre-orders have now grown to a total of 76 aircraft ordered by five airlines. The airlines collectively paid Boom tens of millions of dollars that isn’t refundable, the company said.

The XB-1 Demonstrator will fly subsonic test flights locally in 2018. Boom plans test flights to follow that will break the sound barrier in the skies above California’s Mojave Desert near Edwards Air Force Base.

PRESCOTT AIR FAIR

The 2017 Prescott Regional Air Fair is set for Saturday, October 7, 2017. If you are interested in getting in on the ground floor of this event please contact Guy Roginson. They are looking for volunteers www.flyprc.com/volunteer or contact Guy directly. Guy Roginson, Event Director 310-745-4711 or iFlyPrescott@Gmain.com

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ThunderAds

FOR SALE, ETC.

Mooney for Sale

Terry Emig has a friend in New Mexico who is selling his Mooney. For more info, call Terry at: 520-836-7447 or email terry@valleypumpandmachine.com

Piper Cub Wings

Rebuilt with new spars. One wing ready for cover the other wing soon. Pat Battle A&P/IA DVT 602-274-2434

Completed RV-7A tail kit.

Completed and zinc chromated. Nate D'Anna 602 891-4771 Email Natedanna@q.com

CESSNA 172'S FOR RENT

Two IFR Cessna 172s for rent at Chandler. Owned by Chapter member Pat McGarry. Contact Chris Hoel for more information and to schedule birdgangft@gmail.com

'65 MOONEY

Very clean, 4000TT, 22 hours SMOH, \$41K with new annual, Goodyear hangar, Joe Hobbs joseph.hobbs@cox.net for more information

RV-4 PARTIALLY BUILT KIT

\$13,500 Lycoming 0-290-D2, kit for \$3,000 or \$16,000 for both. Bill Refrow 602-843-9862 w7lov@cox.net

LYCOMING 0-360 A1A

Engine built up for RV project never completed. Invested \$50,000. Price very firm at \$25,000. Martin Del Giorgio delgiorgiopels@gmail.com

GARMIN GDL39 PORTABLE GPS

ADS-B Receiver with free Weather and Dual-Link Traffic. Battery Pack with extra Battery included. Works with all Apple Products. Brand new in the box, \$400. Ken Roth 602-228-5000, or e-mail: RothDevCor@aol.com

SERVICES, ETC.

OIL COOLER REPAIR AND SALES

Chapter member owned. R & E Cooler Service 800-657-0977 www.oilcoolersvs.com

ANNUALS

Owner Assisted. Jim Moss had to move to Alaska to care for sick parents. He may be back later.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION, ETC.

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

HOME BUILT AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION

ABDAR Gary Towner 928-535-3600

ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-3442

MACHINE SHOP

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

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