



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

June 2014

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! At the May meeting Steve Trieber took us on a voyage through the skies of Europe with the Bombard Society hot air balloon expeditions. Steve had some great stories about balloon flying and great pictures of all the castles and estates they flew around. The idea of having an onboard chef on a balloon to serve wine and food while you drifted over beautiful landscapes and valleys seemed like a great idea to me. Where do we sign up?!!

This month we celebrate our Chapter's 16th birthday. This event has become a yearly tradition. We seemed to have achieved a balance of entertainment, education, information and social interaction that the majority of the members enjoy. When we first started the Chapter June 4, 1998, we wanted to keep our goals flexible so the membership could choose the path we wanted to go down. Various ideas of a flying club, chapter project, community hangar, glider club, fly-ins, and increased workshops for young people have been thrown around. If you have a new idea and want to be the person willing to take on a multi-year commitment of making it happen, please step up. Your officers are open to new ideas - but between flying our own planes, projects, family, personal goals, and working and medication (both self and prescribed) we are at our max level of participation and new ideas.

If you have any great ideas or just want to have some fun come to the June meeting, learn a little, and eat some cake, tell us about this great idea you want to spearhead.

Curtis

JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

The next meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, June 19, starting at 7 pm, in the Scottsdale Aviation Business Center, 15041 North Airport Drive. This month's guest speaker is Gustav A. Haussler III from Master Aircraft Painting in Wickenburg. Besides talking about his company and showing some of the finished projects, Gus is going to walk us through the painting process step-by-step so you can learn some of the techniques the pros use.

As part of our 16th Chapter Birthday Celebration there will be birthday cake and bottled water for everyone after the meeting.

Guests are always welcome!

EAA CHAPTER 1217

CELEBRATES 16 YEARS

This month marks the 16th anniversary of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217. It has been a lot of fun, and we even have managed to keep a few of our founding members. They are Jack Pollack, Gretchen Kinder, Terry Emig, Bill Grieme, Mark Nuessle, and Curtis Clark.

Thanks to our Chapter members we have managed to pile up an impressive statistic - 176 meetings with an average of 40 people per meeting. That's 7,040 total attendees!

One of the big things that keeps everyone's interest up are the ThunderWord newsletters, of which we have produced 176. Over the years we have had three different editors. They are Gretchen Kinder, Heather Baldwin, and our current hard-working editor Ron Kassik. We owe each of them a big thanks for their hard work! When we first started, we

Continued on page 2

mailed out the newsletters; but when we figured out we had given the US Post Office over \$10,000, we started e-mailing most of the newsletters and saved boatloads of money. An interesting fact was the original name of our newsletter - it was dreamed up by Jack Pollack, and it was *Mensa Lite*.

As part the effort to keep everyone informed about Chapter 1217 and aviation events in general, Jack Pollack has tirelessly been the Secretary/Treasurer, as well as running our ThunderbirdField.com website. While it has been slow to take flight, three years ago Paul Rhodes jumped in and set up a Chapter 1217 Facebook page. Next time you're stalking

your old girlfriends from the class of 1963, take a moment to check it out and Like us.

It takes a team effort to keep a Chapter active and fun, as well as getting the membership engaged. We are always looking for more help. Some of the folks that have stepped up to the plate and donated their time are Rusty Gavigan, who sends out the dues notices; Denny Myrick, who runs the shirt and hat sales; as well as Bernie Gross and Dave Kujawa, who do the meeting cards. We also have our entertainers to thank, Ron Landon and his wife Sherrie Zeitlin, for hosting the holiday parties, and Jack and Clare Pollack for the May Day BBQ.



Onex by the Sonex Aircraft Company

DENNY'S NEW PLANE

Chapter member Denny Myrick needed something to occupy his time after retiring from Southwest Airlines so he built a beautiful RV-12 that he flies out of Deer Valley Airport. What the long-time pilot didn't expect to learn from building the RV-12 was how much fun and enjoyment building an airplane can be. With the workshop empty and tired of working on honey-dos in his man cave, he has taken on building a new plane, an Onex. That's correct - Denny has become a "serial builder!"

This month's newsletter contains some great pictures of the new plane under construction. The first photo is what the finished airplane should look like. Denny is building the tricycle gear version.

The build is taking place in his two-bay, air conditioned garage. Denny works on it an average of 5 hours a day, 5 days a week.

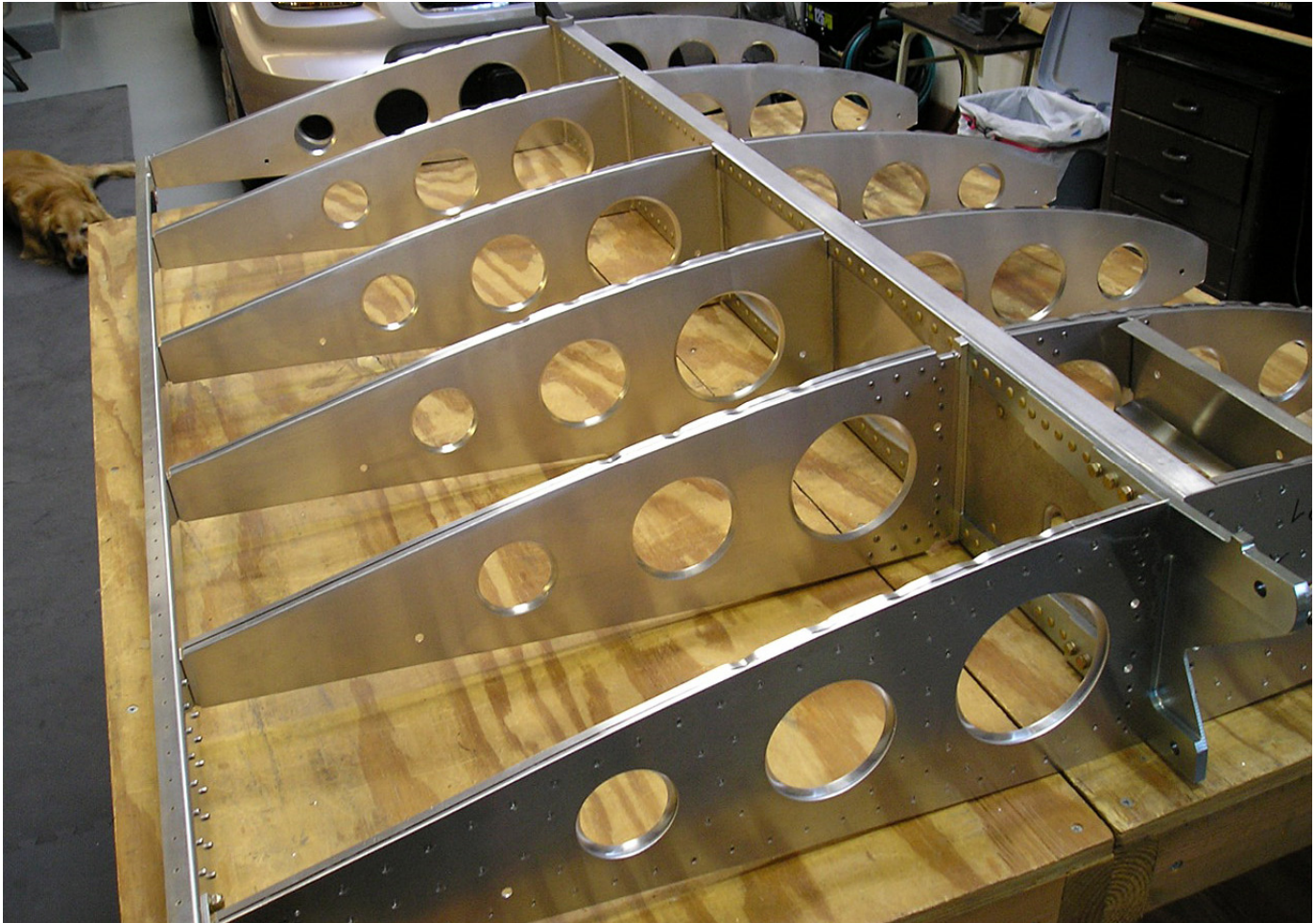
A little about the airplane. It is an Onex (pronounced one-ex) by the Sonex Aircraft

Continued on page 3

Company. It is a diminutive single-seat, acrobatic airplane with folding wings (think Corsair) and powered by an 80-horsepower AeroVee (Volkswagon-based) engine. Denny started this project in August 2013 and has

completed the wings, horizontal & vertical tails, control surfaces, and the aft fuselage including the turtledeck.

The first flight is scheduled for Thursday.



Close-up of Wing Spar and Rib Construction on Denny's Onex

GRAPHENE

The new buzz word in the composites industry is a new product called Graphene. Scientists who are constantly developing lighter, stronger, and more energy-efficient materials have created this new product that will be a game changer in how things are made in the composites world of the future.

Graphene is an extremely thin and strong material. Graphene is a substance made of pure carbon. The carbon is arranged in a honeycomb pattern in a one-atom thick sheet. Another way to think of Graphene is each time we write with a graphite pencil, we are basically making layers of Graphene.

How it's transformative: Graphene has been called a "miracle material" because it's thin, strong, flexible, conducts electricity, and it's nearly transparent. Its potential applications are practically limitless. Graphene researchers won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2010 for developing the wonder-material and now you can even make it in your kitchen. Apparently it is poured as a liquid and a chemical reaction occurs as it dries, forming the internal structure.

One of the principle applications is using Graphene as an aerospace structures materials but its applications could be far

Continued on page 4

greater. A 4-foot-square piece of Graphene is as strong as 3/4-inch marine plywood and weighs around a gram. Graphene also has the ability to be bonded with epoxy and

formed into complex shapes. I am sure Burt Rutan has his order in for a drum of Graphene.



Denny's Man Cave



A View of the Aft Fuselage Construction

EMBROIDERED

CHAPTER 1217 SHIRTS

By popular demand, the Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 Haberdashery Manager, otherwise known as the T-Shirt Guy, Denny Myrick, has just received a one-time order of twelve high quality (60% Cotton, 40% Polyester), white polo shirts with the Chapter logo *embroidered* (not silk screened) on the pocket!

First come, first served, available only in sizes Large and Extra Large. This order is from a new supplier since our old Casa Grande provider is no longer in business. Notice the key words "high quality," hence the premium price of \$30 each.

These shirts will be available before and after normal monthly chapter meetings until the supply runs out. I repeat, no colors other than white or sizes other than L or XL are

available. And, yes, they have a pocket. If you are interested, please bring the \$30 exact amount.

AIRVENTURE HAPPY HOUR

It has now been a 16-year tradition of Chapter 1217 members attending the Oshkosh AirVenture Fly-In 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 28th, 2014, 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.



Another View of Denny's Work Area



Construction of the Horizontal Stabilizer

WHAT'S UP WITH DOC

The group working to restore the B-29 bomber named 'Doc' to an airworthy condition says that the airplane should be ready to fly by the end of the year. The B-29 project, is located in Wichita, Kansas and is housed in a hangar donated by Boeing. The donation of space runs out at the end of this year.

They hope to find a permanent home for Doc in Wichita, from where they will fly it around the country as a living museum.

PORTABLE GPS ADS-B TCAS FOR SALE

Ken Roth has for sale a really cool must-have. It is a brand-new **Garmin GDL39** Portable GPS - ADS-B Receiver with free Weather and Dual-Link Traffic. It also includes the Battery Pack that was an extra Battery. It works with all the Apple Products. Sporty's sells it now for \$599 + \$99 for the Battery Pack, \$700±. For more info, check out the Link:

http://www.sportys.com/PilotShop/product/17440?utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=gps&device=c&network=g&matchtype=b&gclid=C K_p84WL3L4CFYlffgodnDgAbw

His unit is brand new, in the box, and he would like to sell it to one of our Chapter members for \$400. Ken can be reached at 602-228-5000, e-mail: RothDevCor@aol.com.

EAA MEMBERS GET FREE MUSEUM ENTRY

EAA members can enjoy more than 300 museum and science centers worldwide **free of charge**, thanks to a partnership with the Association of Science-Technology Centers and its ASTC Travel Passport Program.

Taking advantage of the ASTC Travel Passport Program is easy. Show your EAA membership card at the admissions area of the museum that you are visiting to gain

Continued on page 6

access to their facilities for free. There are a few limitations: The facility must be located at least 90 miles or more from both the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin and from your home address. Also, any special display areas with an additional

charge in the museum you are visiting are excluded.

Visit www.astc.org/passport for a list of participating museums. Remember to present your EAA membership card to receive your free admission.



Denny Myrick's RV-12



Everyone was watching Disney's "Planes" Movie at 2013 AirVenture

ThunderAds

FOR SALE, ETC.

TAYLORCRAFT BC12 D

Beautifully restored BC12 D. TT: 2635 hrs. 255 hrs since total restoration. C-65 255 hrs smoh. Have all aircraft records & FAA data since new. Annual inspection with purchase. \$24,500. Steve Trieber, Located in Casa Grande• Telephone: 207-853-6060

LYCOMING 0-360 A1A

Engine built up for RV project that never got off the ground. Invested \$50,000. Price is very firm at \$25,000. Martin Del Giorgio delgiorgiopels@gmail.com

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

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

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.

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

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

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

PLENTY OF ROOM FOR NEW ADS. SEND YOURS TO EAA Chapter 1217@aol.com

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

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

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