



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

June 2015

Scottsdale, Arizona

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY EAA CHAPTER 1217

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month, Dr. Chuck Crinnian gave a great presentation on aeromedical issues affecting pilots. As both a pilot and an Aviation Medical Examiner, and owning two planes, he has a unique perspective on why we want to keep flying. Jordan Ross deserves thanks for getting Dr. Chuck to talk.

I met this month's speaker at a mutual friend's birthday party last month. He had a couple of great stories, and the next day I looked him up on Google. The light bulb went on that this guy would be a great speaker and has done some really cool stuff. Like a lot of folks I ask, he has never done any group presentations but thought it would be fun and quickly agreed. I think everyone will enjoy meeting him and hearing his story. As each of us goes through life, we meet some interesting characters. If you think they would have a story to share, pass along their name to me and we'll see if we can twist their arm.

In visiting Sonny Weller's hangar at Deer Valley the other day, I got to see his brand new Extreme Bellanca Decathlon. It is powered by a 210 hp Lycoming and has an MT-Propeller. This model also has redesigned longer main landing gear legs to accommodate the longer propeller, a new airfoil-section tailplane with 10% larger area, clipped wingtips and greater aileron effectiveness. Sonny uses the plane to give instruction in aerobatics, upset training, flight reviews, taildragger checkouts, and just fun flying. If you want to fly a cool plane or just go for a ride with a really laid-back instructor,

give him a call at 602-463-4863. Beware - this could lead to wanting one for yourself!

See you at the June meeting.

*Curtis*

### JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

The next meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, starting at 7 pm. The location is the Scottsdale Aviation Business Center, 15041 North Airport Drive. This month's guest speaker is Charlie Simpson from the New Nose Corporation based here in the Valley. NNC offers a wide range of services to meet the needs of aircraft modification programs. NNC provides avionics design & system integration, FAA Designated Engineering Representative (DER) certification services, and aircraft modification program management. One of Charlie's past projects was modifying a Grumman Albatross, so it could be the first of its type to do a global circumnavigation. Charlie is a good guy to know when you need an FAA DER for modifications to your plane.

As part of our 17th Chapter Birthday Celebration, there will be birthday cake and cold drinks for everyone after the meeting.

Guests are always welcome!

### EAA CHAPTER 1217

### CELEBRATES 17 YEARS

This month marks the 17th 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

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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 - 187 meetings with an average of 40 people per meeting. That totals just under 7,500 attendees!

One of the big things that keeps everyone's interest up are the ThunderWord newsletters, of which we have produced 187. 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 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, 4 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 Dave Kujawa, who does the meeting cards. We also have our entertainers to thank, Ron Landon and his wife Sherrie Zeitlin, for hosting many of the holiday parties, and Jack and Clare Pollack for the May Day BBQ.



**Joe O'Neil and His Skybolt**



Photo by Jordan Ross

### Denny Myrick's RV-12

#### **AIRVENTURE HAPPY HOUR**

It has now been a 17-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 20, 2015, 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.wendtonthelake.com](http://www.wendtonthelake.com). They are located 3.8 miles south of the seaplane base.

#### **KEEP TRANSPONDERS ON WHILE TAXIING**

Safety Alert for Operators 15006 was published by the FAA last month to ensure that pilots realize the need to keep their aircraft transponders turned on to the altitude-reporting mode even when operational on the June 2015

ground in airport movement areas. The FAA uses runway safety systems, such as airport surface detection equipment model X (ASDE-X) and advanced surface movement guidance and control system (A-SMGCS), at many airports in the U.S. to determine aircraft and vehicle locations when operating on an airport's surface.

Both of these systems use data from transponders to obtain accurate aircraft and vehicle locations to increase airport surface safety and efficiency. Nationwide, the agency said that airports with ASDE-X report an average of 20 non-compliance transponder events per day, even with explicit airport diagrams or ATIS notification, or both, directing pilots to operate with transponders on. To address these problems, aircraft operating on all airport movement areas at all airports—not just those that are ASDE-X equipped — must taxi with their transponders on in the altitude-reporting mode.



Photo by Jordan Ross

### Last Month's Speaker Dr. Chuck Crinnian in His CJ-6A

#### SEARCH FOR AMELIA EARHARDT

One of the last unsolved great aviation mysteries is the search for missing pilot Amelia Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan. Just this month the TIGHAR team departed from Los Angeles on their latest expedition. On Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup>, team members flew to Fiji, loaded their gear aboard the ship *Nai'a*, and on June 8<sup>th</sup> began the five-day, thousand-mile voyage to Nikumaroro. This is the location they think Earhart landed when she ran out of fuel. They anticipate two weeks of search operations - June 13<sup>th</sup> to June 26<sup>th</sup> - before sailing back to Fiji. Plans are return to Los Angeles on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

During the expedition, daily updates will be posted on the TIGHAR website: TIGHAR.org.

#### BACKGROUND

In 1988, TIGHAR began testing the hypothesis that Amelia Earhart's final flight ended on the remote, uninhabited Pacific atoll known in 1937 as Gardner Island and today as Nikumaroro. Twenty-seven years of research, including ten archaeological expeditions to the island, have produced a preponderance of archival, photographic, analytical, and artifact evidence suggesting

that the hypothesis is correct - but no single conclusive artifact has yet been found. Such a "smoking gun" object may or may not still exist, and if it does it may or may not be discoverable with the assets they can bring to bear.

As with all searches, they cannot be confident of making a dramatic discovery. They've made many breakthroughs in the 27 years of investigating the Earhart disappearance but there are never any guarantees. This expedition is nothing more, and nothing less, than an attempt to build on the preponderance of evidence that has already established Nikumaroro as the most likely answer to the Earhart riddle.

#### T-34 MENTOR PARTNERSHIP

Chapter member Lynn Miller is looking to sell his share in a Beechcraft T-34 Mentor based at Falcon Field. It would be a great opportunity for someone who wants to own an airplane but wants to share in the costs of ownership. The plane is completely restored, Standard Category certified, and hangared at Falcon Field in Mesa. The Mentor combines the ability to have a fast cross country plane,

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aerobatics, and the ability to learn formation flying all in one plane. Drop Lynn a note at

lynnmiller777@gmail.com or call 602-448-7487 or 480-585-0795 to learn more and see the plane.



Photo by Jordan Ross

### Lynn Miller's Beech T-34 Mentor Flies over Phoenix on Memorial Day



Photo by Jordan Ross

### Memorial Day Formation of 14 Yaks, CJs and T-34s Flying over Veterans Cemeteries



Photo by Bernie Gross

**Hayden Newhouse Works on His Rare Smith Termite**

**RUTAN RC TO OFFER KITS FOR MODERERS**

A new company, RutanRC, is developing a series of radio-controlled aircraft based on the innovative designs of Burt Rutan. Plans are to create and market the aircraft beginning with the Ansari XPrize-winning White Knight and SpaceShipOne, then add other designs that could include the Ares, Boomerang, LongEZ, the canard motor glider Solitaire, Voyager, Defiant, Catbird - even his yet-to-be-seen latest design, the SkiGull.

Leading the company are Dan Kreigh, who worked with Rutan as a Scaled Composites engineer on many designs including the original SpaceShipOne, and Jeff Corsiglia, who led R&D for AirHogs creating such firsts

as HELIX +4, SharpShooter, and other RChits. Rutan will be an adviser on design and functionality as well as an ongoing source of innovation. More information on the models will also be available at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2015.

White Knight/SpaceShipOne made history in 2004 at Mojave Airport, California, when WK carried SS1 to about 50,000 feet, released it, and SS1 rocketed into suborbital space before returning to earth via Rutan's ingenious "feathering" tail mechanism. According to RutanRC, operators can actually conduct the separation and "feathering" maneuvers via RC or fly them separately.

White Knight has a six-foot wingspan while SS1's measures 16.5 inches with a 27-inch overall length. Both models will be built with durable foam, carbon fiber reinforcement, and decals that match the original. The model planes will retail for \$299. Product delivery is projected for November 2015. Contact the company directly at [eea@RutanRC.com](mailto:eea@RutanRC.com).

**LEADVILLE FLY-IN**

Leadville Airport is having another 4th of July party this year complete with free hamburgers and hot dogs. You're all invited to join them for the free food. They'll also be having live music again this year, and for the first time the local car club will also be attending. They hope to have around 20 classic cars on display!!! For more information call Levi Brown, Airport Manger, Leadville-Lake County Airport; Office: 719-648-5608, Cell: 719-293-5110

**FROM DENNY'S HABERDASHERY**

Pocketed white polo shirts with Chapter 1217 embroidered logo are once again available. These are very high quality and are available in all sizes. Get yours in time for Airventure. \$30.00. T-Shirts and hats are also available.

**EAA Chapter 1217 Personnel**

President	Curtis Clark	602 710-4494	<a href="mailto:EAChapter1217@aol.com">EAChapter1217@aol.com</a>
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Young Eagles	YOUR NAME - HERE POSITION OPEN		
Technical Counselor	Dan Muxlow	480 563-4228	<a href="mailto:N27DM@cox.net">N27DM@cox.net</a>

# ThunderAds

## FOR SALE, ETC.

### 2010 VAN'S RV-12 ELSA

155Hrs. T.T. A&E, Garman SL-40, GTX-327, 496 GPS, Dynon D-180 w/AP-74 Auto Pilot, A&P Built, Professional Paint, Located DVT \$85,000., Contact Paul for photo's via e-mail [pmshep@live.com](mailto:pmshep@live.com)

### '65 MOONEY

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

### RV-4 PARTIALLY BUILT KIT

\$13,500 Lycoming O-290-D2 \$3,000 or \$16,000 for both Bill Refrow 602 843-9862, [w7lov@cox.net](mailto:w7lov@cox.net)

### ZENITH STOL CH 710

Estate sale. Aircraft close to finishing. Located in Yuma, AZ. Contact Bob Carter for more information [BobC@buildersguild.com](mailto:BobC@buildersguild.com)

### VANS AIRCRAFT RV WHEEL PANTS

Pressure recovery wheel pants. New never used, painted, or drilled \$400. Jack 480 695-4441

### 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](mailto:RothDevCor@aol.com)

### PULSE AUTOCYCLE

FAA got you grounded? Want a fun project that captures the thrill of flying? Jim Bede designed Pulse Autocycle for sale \$22,000., Arizona title and current registration. Curtis 602 710-4494 [azskybum@aol.com](mailto:azskybum@aol.com)

### LYCOMING O-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](mailto:delgiorgiopels@gmail.com)

### CURTISS REED PROPELLER

Model 55511. 82" SAE 1 taper shaft. (Warner, Ranger, Maytag 604) Make me an offer, I want it gone. 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.

### 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.

### SERVICES

#### OIL COOLER REPAIR AND SALES

Chapter member owned. R & E Cooler Service 800 657-0977 [www.oilcoolersvs.com](http://www.oilcoolersvs.com)

### ANNUALS

Owner Assisted. Jim Moss 520-440-2191 [www.northside-aviation.com](http://www.northside-aviation.com)

### FLIGHT INSTRUCTION, ETC.

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

### HOMEBUILT AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION

ABDAR Gary Towner 928-535-3600

### ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-3442

### AIRMEN PHYSICALS

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

### MACHINE SHOP

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

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

Send an E-mail to:  
[EAChapter1217@aol.com](mailto:EAChapter1217@aol.com)

**Thunderbird Field  
EAA Chapter 1217  
5450 East Voltaire  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254**

