



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

June 2017

Scottsdale, Arizona

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY EAA CHAPTER 1217

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month Al Adams told us the amazing story of crashing a Saberliner at Sky Harbor and the fallout with the FAA. It was an interesting story and they were really lucky to get out uninjured.

With the summer heat descending on us it has slowed down our flying activities. I managed to attend the Casa Grande Fly-in breakfast with Jack Pollack. The food was good and there was a reasonable turnout. We flew the RV-8 down so it was three times as fast as the Cub. Deer Valley Airport has entered the final phase of resurfacing the north ramp and I have had to move planes to other hangars. If I need a tool I at least know where it is, in the blocked off hangar!

We lost Bill Maxey one of our long time members and supporters to cancer this month. Bill was building a Cozy Mark 3 in his shop and had a Cessna 182 that he was always inviting people to join him flying to the canard breakfasts around the state. Bill also volunteered to be a guest speaker on two occasions. At the first one he brought along a Walter turboprop engine and showed us how it worked, and everyone got to poke at it. The second time he talked about his company, Dowling and Assoc that did a market analysis of all the Light Sport aircraft that were being produced and rated them on a matrix looking at safety, construction, size, etc. His analytical approach hopefully steered a few people in the right direction. Bill's Cozy project needs to find a new home, I will have more information at the June meeting.

*Curtis*

### JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

The June meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, June 15, beginning at 7 pm. **The location is the Scottsdale Aviation Business Center, 15041 North Airport Drive.** This month's guest speaker is Charlie Spinelli who is going to bring us up to date on the latest ADS-B equipment as well as go over some of the problems. Charlie flies a Rutan Varri-Viggen that he built out at Deer Valley and works in the unmanned aerial systems division at Boeing.

Since this our Chapter Birthday month there will be cake and drinks. After months of postponements this building is coming down after this meeting so it will be our last meeting in the old FAA FSDO.

Guests are always welcome!

### BILL MAXEY FLIES WEST

William B. Maxey of Paradise Valley, Arizona, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his family, on May 20, 2017 after a courageous battle with cancer. 'Maxey,' as he was often called, was born on April 7, 1942 in Lufkin, Texas and was the oldest child of Edwin and Irene Maxey. He married his high school sweetheart, Diane Meadows, in 1964, and they were happily married for 48 years before her passing in 2012. He and Diane grew up in a simple world of going to football games on Friday nights, soda fountain date nights at Read's, and cruising main street with your favorite girl on the seat beside you. Together, Maxey and Diane had two children, Dana Maxey O'Leary and Robert Maxey. Dana is married and lives in New York City

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**Bill Maxey**

with her husband, Bill, and son, John-Paul. Robert lives on his sailboat on St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands.

After wife Diane's passing in 2012, Maxey still had more love to give, and continued sharing life's joys with his adoring companion Trish Mayberry of Paradise Valley who he brought to many Chapter 1217 events. She and her family, welcomed 'Max' into their lives and their love, and provided a fresh new audience for his well-told stories full of southern intrigue, hunting, fishing, fast cars, and faster airplanes.

It was Maxey's life-long love affair with airplanes that originally brought him to the Phoenix area and the aerospace division of Honeywell (formerly Garrett AiResearch) where he enjoyed a 24 year career. As an accomplished engineer with a B.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering from the University of Texas, there was almost nothing that Maxey could not build or repair. He was nearing completion of an experimental airplane in his home shop prior to his illness. He also owned a Cessna 182 and spent 30

years behind those controls ferrying his family and friends around the country on limitless adventures.

His life's adventures included extensive travel for business in Europe, South America, India, and the Far East. Family exploration expanded his personal map to Alaska, Australia, and Africa. His nearer exploits included snow skiing - he preferred the western US; camping - he preferred the mountains (any place with either a beautiful view or a fishing stream); and hunting – anything, anywhere, anytime.

Maxey was proud of his Texas heritage and epitomized a true southern gentleman. He was well-known for having the perfect pair of cowboy boots for every occasion. He was all about church on Sundays, biscuits & gravy, and John Wayne.

Bill also donated his time in retirement to the Red Cross Disaster Relief and traveled in support of their mission on a moment's notice.



**Bill Maxey's Cozy Project**

Bill Maxey's Cozy project with Lycoming O-320 is available. Send an email to: [EAChapter1217@aol.com](mailto:EAChapter1217@aol.com) and I will send you a link to pictures of what goes with the plane.



**Chapter member Don Lindholm and ace pilot/mechanic Ken Morris at Don's grass runway on his farm in Iowa with Don's Spartan Executive**

## **EAA CHAPTER 1217**

### **CELEBRATES 19 YEARS**

This month marks the 19th 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 - 199 meetings with an average of 40 people per meeting. That totals just under 8,000 attendees!

One of the big things that keeps everyone's interest up are the ThunderWord newsletters, of which we have produced 199. 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, five years ago Paul Rhodes jumped in and set up a Chapter 1217 Facebook page. Next time you're stalking your old girlfriends, 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.

## **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 [www.wendtsonthelake.com](http://www.wendtsonthelake.com) (920) 688-5231. They are located 3.8 miles south of the seaplane base.

## **STRATOLAUNCH ROLLOUT**

The SCALED Model 351 has the longest wing span of any aircraft yet built, at 385 feet (117 m). It is of twin-fuselage configuration, similar to the Scaled Composites White Knight Two. The centre section of the high-mounted, high aspect ratio wing is fitted with a Mating and Integration System (MIS) capable of handling a 230,000 kg (500,000 lb) load and being developed by Dynetics. Each fuselage has its own tail with horizontal and vertical stabilizer, leaving a clear area behind the payload to reduce the risk of interference during flight. Three engines are positioned on pylons outboard of each fuselage. The cockpit is positioned within the starboard fuselage.

The aircraft is powered by six 56,000 lb thrust Pratt & Whitney Boeing 747 PW4056 engines. To cut development costs, many of the aircraft systems have been adopted from the Boeing 747-400, including the engines, avionics, flight deck, landing gear and other systems. Two former United Airlines Boeing 747-400 aircraft (Serial numbers 28715 & 28716) were acquired and taken to the Mojave Air & Space Port for cannibalization.

The completed aircraft, ready for initial ground and fueling tests, was rolled out on May 31, 2017.

## **KESTRAL AVIATION**

### **OPENING IN COTTONWOOD**

Kestrel Aviation Services opened a new full-service aviation center on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Cottonwood Municipal Airport (P52) that is focused on Light Sport Aircraft. They are located in their new hangar at 668 Airpark Road, Hangar No. 3.

According to a press release from Kestrel Aviation Services, the FAA recently created a special category of aircraft and pilot licensure called Light Sport Aircraft (LSA). With this new category, pilots can purchase a brand new aircraft and obtain training for a Sport Pilot license for less than half of what traditional aviation costs, "opening up the thrill of flying to tens of thousands of new pilots. Existing pilots, who are no longer active, can now renew their love of aviation for a fraction of what it used to cost."

Kestrel Aviation Services provides a "one-stop-shop" for LSA adventure. Featured will be a full FAA LSA certified flight center, providing maintenance and condition inspections of all 3-axis and weight-shift LSA aircraft.

"They are also Factory Reps for Wild Sky Aircraft, manufacturers of the incredible new LSA heavy-duty "Goat" weight-shift adventure trike. And they partner with other LSA businesses to provide a complete LSA pilot experience". Sid Lloyd, CEO of Kestrel Aviation Services, said, "We are so excited to bring a new type of affordable aviation to the Verde Valley area. And it's fun!"

Light Sport Aircraft have been defined by the FAA as two-place aircraft weighing less than 1,320 pounds with a top speed of 120 mph, their lower weight and lower design speed make them more affordable than traditional aircraft.

"The FAA worked with industry experts to develop a faster and more affordable certification process for LSA aircraft in order to accelerate development and cut cost.

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There are already more than 150 models of LSA aircraft on the market from which to choose,” stated the release.

Along with the new LSA category of aircraft comes a new type of pilot license: Sport Pilot. A Sport Pilot license requires passing an FAA knowledge test, and a minimum of only 15 hours of dual instruction plus 5 hours of supervised solo, said the company. This is half of what is currently required for a full Private Pilot license.

“The limits for a Sport Pilot include no night flight, carrying only one passenger, and not flying higher than 10,000 feet. Since there are such limits, it is much easier to learn what you need to know to obtain a Sport Pilot license. And, you don’t need an expensive FAA medical certification. All you need is a valid driver’s license”.

Total training cost for a typical Sport Pilot license is under \$6,000, said the company.

Existing Private Pilots can fly LSA aircraft as Sport Pilots without a medical certificate if they have not had their last medical revoked by the FAA, opening up aviation to thousands of existing “rusty” pilots, the release stated.

Sid Lloyd started Kestrel Aviation Services after a successful executive career with Fortune 100 companies and was most recently CEO and President of a large non-profit based in Oklahoma. He shares his love of aviation with his wife who is also a pilot. They have lived in the Verde Valley for 10 years.

Kestrel Aviation Services is a full-service Light Sport Aviation center focusing on Rotax equipped Light Sport Aircraft, and can be contacted at [www.kestrrelaviationservices.com](http://www.kestrrelaviationservices.com)



## Rare Airworthy C-97 Stratofreighter

### C-97 COMING TO AN AIRSHOW NEAR YOU

The Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation (BAHF) is reportedly ready to fly the world's only certified and airworthy C-97 Stratofreighter. The foundation acquired the aircraft in 1996 with the intention of creating a flying exhibit

dedicated to the Berlin Airlift and the Cold War. This aircraft has been a long term project due to its complexities, the BAHF said on its website, owing much of that to its 28 cylinder Pratt & Whitney R-4360 engines. The BAHF’s Boeing C-97G 52-2718 is one of

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only two remaining airworthy C-97's in the world. They plan to operate the "Angel of Deliverance" as a "flying museum, and classroom", in the same manner as they do with their Douglas C-54, "Spirit of Freedom".

They plan to tell the story of the Cold War, from the Berlin Airlift of 1948 to the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989. This will include such events as: The Berlin Airlift, The Korean War, The "Red Scare" and McCarthyism, The Cuban Missile Crisis, Sputnik and the Race to the Moon, The Vietnam War, The Arms Race, and finally Glasnost and the fall of the Soviet Union

These topics will be represented as part of a Timeline-oriented display throughout the fuselage of the aircraft. It will be augmented by artifacts, photographs, personal experiences, and it will be all housed in the hull of a true Cold Warrior, a former KC-97. The KC-97 helped the USAF maintain a

"round the clock" presence in the air by becoming the first real air-to-air refueler. To learn more about the plane and the project contact: Berlin Airlift Historical Foundation PO BOX 782 Farmingdale, NJ 07727 [www.spiritoffreedom.org](http://www.spiritoffreedom.org)

### **PRESCOTT AIR FAIR**

The 2017 Prescott Regional Air Fair is set for Saturday, October 07, 2017. If you are interested in getting in on the ground floor of this event please contact Guy Roginson. They are looking for volunteers, so please go to the following link and sign-up:

<https://www.flyprc.com/volunteer> or contact Guy directly.

Guy Roginson, Event Director  
Fly Prescott - [FlyPRC.com](http://FlyPRC.com)  
Direct: [310-745-4711](tel:310-745-4711)  
Email: [iFlyPrescott@gmail.com](mailto:iFlyPrescott@gmail.com)



**Chapter member Pat McGarry volunteers as a pilot for the Collings Foundation in the summer. This year they got a new plane for him to fly it is a TF-51 and has complete dual controls and a rear instrument panel.**

### **THUNDERBIRD FIELD EAA CHAPTER 1217 CONTACTS**

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**Chapter Website: [www.ThunderbirdField.com](http://www.ThunderbirdField.com)**



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:birdgangft@gmail.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 0-290-D2, kit for \$3,000 or \$16,000 for both. Bill Refrow 602-843-9862 [w7lov@cox.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:RothDevCor@aol.com)

## **SERVICES, ETC.**

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

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