



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

March, 2007

Scottsdale, Arizona

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar. We had a great turnout last month to hear Bill Maxey tell us about turbine engines and check out the Walter turboprop engine he brought to the meeting.

It was great to see all of the Chapter 1217 folks that came down to the Cactus Fly-in. This is the start of the busy fly-in and airshow season here in the southwest so pick a weekend and there is something going on. On the agenda at the March meeting will be setting a date for our annual Fly-in / Drive-in at Deer Valley in the next couple of months, this year the Arizona antique Airplane Association is going to pay for the catering as a way of thanking all of us for our support in staffing their fly-in.

In the past couple of newsletters we had articles on Chapter 1217 Secretary-Treasurer Jack Pollack's Stearman and its restoration and first flight. All the hard work paid off for Jack when he won Best Military Trainer and the Grand Champion award at the Cactus Fly-in. Congratulations Jack! .

I hope to see you at the March meeting.

*Curtis*

## SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

Chapter members have free use of a hydraulic crane for lifting engines and a flat bed trailer for moving projects. We only ask that you use it for aviation purposes and try to return it in a timely manner so others can use it also.

## MARCH MEETING

The March meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, March 15th, in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. This month's guest speaker will be Jay Jespersion from Brooks Front Range Aviation in Bettles, Alaska. Jay makes a living as a real "bush pilot" having flown thousands of hours flying the Brooks Range. He will tell us about what it takes to fly and stay alive in the Alaska wilderness. Remember guests are always welcome!

## BROOKS FRONT RANGE AVIATION FACTS AT A GLANCE

- One DeHavilland Otter on floats  
nine passenger
- Two DeHavilland Beavers on floats  
six passenger
- One Cessna 185 on floats  
three passenger
- One Cessna 185 on wheels  
three passenger
- One Helio Courier on wheels  
three passenger
- Rafts and Canoes available
- On-site grocery store for last minute items
- Liquor and beer sales
- Alaska State Licensed  
Big Game Transporter
- Customize any adventure trip

## COMPLETIONS

Brian and Jane Mitchell have completed their latest project in only nine months! Congratulations on a happy baby boy they named Gavin. Time to look for a four-place helicopter to replace the Bell 47.

## CACTUS FLY-IN

High winds and blowing dust kept the aircraft attendance down a little bit but for the folks that braved the weather; this year's Cactus Fly-in was a success. Some of the interesting aircraft in attendance were a completely rebuilt Lockheed Electra 12A, an AN-2 biplane, Sikorsky S-61N helicopter and even a Piper Vagabond that flew all the way from Tennessee for the Fly-in. Besides Jack's Stearman getting the Grand Champion award, Darwin Barrie's RV-7 received best homebuilt. Darwin bought the project out of the ThunderAds in our Newsletter after it had been started by Ed Curtis and bought by Joe Hobbs. Keep searching those ads for your next project. Next year will be the fiftieth anniversary of the fly-in so mark your calendars for the first weekend in March 2008!

EAA Chapter 1217 played a major role in running this year's event and a big thanks goes out to all of you who came down and volunteered, and hopefully had a good time. Antique Airplane Association President Bob Taylor told me how pleased he was that our Chapter 1217 members came out in force and kept the show running smoothly.

## PRE-ORDER YOUR

### EAA AIRVENTURE 2007 NOTAM

If you're flying to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2007, the most important information you can have is the Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that is created specifically for the event. It includes all the arrival and departure procedures to Wittman Regional Airport and other area airfields, as well as essential information that every pilot needs to know before flying to The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration.

You can now pre-order a printed copy of the 2007 AirVenture NOTAM by going to [www.airventure.org/2007/flying/index.html](http://www.airventure.org/2007/flying/index.html) and filling out the order form. Upon final NOTAM approval and publication by the FAA, expected in early May, those NOTAMs will be sent free of charge. The quickest way to get the information is via the EAA AirVenture website, where the NOTAM will be available in downloadable PDF format once it is finalized. You can study the entire NOTAM online prior to your departure for Oshkosh.

If you're flying your aircraft to EAA AirVenture, it is essential that you obtain and study the NOTAM to know exactly what to expect as you arrive at Oshkosh, as well as any changes from previous years.



**Tod Dickey's New Turbocharged Grumman Widgeon on Roosevelt Lake**

## **GOOD NEWS FROM WASHINGTON ON YOUNG EAGLES**

A week of work by EAA and FAA have ensured the future vitality and success of the Young Eagles program, by removing possible barriers that were part of the new Air Tour Rule announced earlier this month. EAA President Tom Poberezny, along with EAA's Earl Lawrence and Doug Macnair, met Thursday with FAA's senior leadership, including Administrator Marion Blakey. They discussed the Air Tour Rule's possible effect on Young Eagles, especially limits on what aircraft could be used for Young Eagles flights, plus additional restrictions on pilot qualifications and frequency of Young Eagles activities.

"Everyone we met with at FAA assured us that there was no intent to harm the Young Eagles program in any manner through the air tour rule," Poberezny said. "FAA's staff showed true concern for the program and immediately moved toward a positive solution."

When Poberezny arrived at FAA headquarters the agency had, in anticipation

of the meeting, drafted a letter clarifying Young Eagles flights as non-compensation flights. The letter emphasized that the Air Tour Rule does not apply to Young Eagles flights where the pilot does not receive compensation. The final version of that letter will arrive at EAA within the next few business days. In addition, Administrator Blakey and FAA senior officials pledged that technical corrections would be made to the air tour rule's preamble before the rule takes effect on March 15, 2007.

For EAA members who plan to fly Young Eagles, it means they may continue to operate as they have in the past when providing Young Eagles flights. "The rapid, positive resolution to this situation is an example of the outstanding working relationship between EAA and FAA," Poberezny said. "FAA has helped provide the environment where nearly 1.3 million Young Eagles have been flown, and they continue their support of what has become the largest youth education program in aviation history. We are very pleased with the outcome and appreciate FAA's immediate attention to this issue".



**Tod Dickey's Turbocharged Grumman Widgeon Landing on Roosevelt Lake**

## **JACKSONVILLE EAAERS SCORE VICTORY OVER ANTI-AIRCRAFT ORDINANCE**

EAA members in Jacksonville, Florida, discovered Tuesday night that you indeed can fight City Hall. In a show of unity, about 20 EAAers from Jacksonville's Chapter 193 and other area chapters persuaded the city council to either repeal or re-write its controversial ordinance that prohibits parking or storing aircraft in residentially zoned areas as well as repairing, testing, operating, modifying, or altering flying craft anywhere on a residential lot.

"It could not have gone any better," said Milford Shirley, Chapter 193 president, who organized EAA members to attend the Tuesday night meeting. "Our strategy was to show the inequity of restricting aircraft homebuilding as opposed to other hobby-type pursuits that aren't as regulated, and it worked." Shirley also distributed copies of *Sport Aviation* and various event flyers to the council members for background on recreational flying and the homebuilt movement.

Chapter 193 members Jeff Nordseik, Ben Burbridge, and Sam Fischer made photo presentations illustrating how unfair the ordinance is. For example, because of the narrowly written ordinance, a resident can legally build a fiberglass canoe at home, but not a composite fuselage. Working on furniture in your garage is allowed, but not a wing rib. Want to weld an iron bedstead? Go ahead, but welding aircraft tubing is off limits. Council member Lake Ray, who authored the ordinance, admitted that it was a mistake and too over-reaching. "He (Ray) said there was a good chance the council would repeal the law".

Shirley said. "But even if they don't, they'll at least re-write the ordinance with significant input from EAA members." Shirley said that any restrictions for aircraft should be the same as those for similar hobby pursuits,

such as automobile restoration. He's called a meeting of chapter members for this Saturday to discuss aircraft-revision recommendations to the ordinance.

In a separate meeting with council member Ray, chapter members discovered that many years ago he was a student pilot and even soloed, but stopped flying to pursue other life and family goals. Chapter members immediately invited Ray and the other council members to visit future flight events where they hope to reintroduce him to recreational aviation, including a flight in a new special light-sport aircraft based at the airport.

Shirley also mentioned he was extremely happy with the advocacy relationship with EAA, where the chapter took the lead with EAA providing backup support as necessary. "It was a win-win for everyone".

The ordinance was passed in June in response to a residential complaint against EAA member Brian Kraut, who's been charged several times since for code violations. Kraut made an unsuccessful attempt in December to have the ordinance declared unconstitutional, but the charges are still officially pending.

## **NEW BATTERY FROM GILL PROMISES MORE POWER**

Gill Battery has introduced their new 7638-44 sealed, valve regulated lead acid (VRLA), 44 Ampere Hour 24 volt battery. The company says the new battery will deliver more power and significantly better shelf life than traditional VRLA batteries. It is also FAA and PMA certified. The new 7638-44 will be available through all Gill Batteries distributors beginning in mid-March. Go to [www.gillbatteries.com](http://www.gillbatteries.com) and use the "Configurator" to determine which Gill model is correct for your aircraft.



**Dr. Jim Beauchene's DeHaviland Beaver at Roosevelt Lake**



**DeHaviland Beaver Refueling at Payson**



**Chapter 1217 member Paul Besing  
on his way to Afghanistan via C-130**

# ThunderAds

## FOR SALE

### NSI SUBARU ENGINE, PROP AND SPINNER

Only approx 105 hours since new on engine and prop (cap 140), no damage on either. Mike Berglund 602-684-1527 [mberglund1@cox.net](mailto:mberglund1@cox.net)

### 1979 CESSNA TURBO 182RG

287 SMOH, O2, A/P, NDH Arv Schultz 602 275-1016

### GRENGA GN-1 AIRCAMPER PROJECT

Biplane conversion but can be switched to a parasol. Fuselage covered and Elizado Tigre engine installed. \$6000. Estate sale. Contact Lesley Morgan 480-834-4831 or e-mail Curtis at [EAChapter1217@aol.com](mailto:EAChapter1217@aol.com) to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

### SHEET METAL TOOL KIT & RV-6/8 VIDEOS

REDUCED from \$1500 to \$1100 and now \$900. Van's RV-specific Sheet Metal Tool Kit & RV-6/8 Videos: Cleveland Complete Sheet Metal Airframe Tool Package (I paid \$1670 two yrs ago); C-Frame Table; Set of 4 "From the Ground Up" RV-8 construction videotapes (cost new \$80); Set of 10 George Orndorff RV-6/8 construction videotapes (cost new over \$200). \$900. for everything. Will sell videotape sets and tool set individually. Contact Denny Myrick 480-502-0547.

### 1957 PIPER PA-23-160 APACHE TWIN

Right engine 813 hrs SMOH, Left 1366 SMOH, 861 STO; Props 247 hrs since new; King Comm & Xpdr, Narco 122 VOR/ILS/GS, Apollo GX55 GPS, great twin-time builder. \$40,000. Ron Kassik 480-948-0168

### RV-4 PARTS

RV-4 tail kit, new in box, minimum work done \$650., RV-4 wing parts: leading edge skins, tank skins, tank baffles, and top and bottom wing skins, prepunched, new \$500. Mike 602-862-0699

### PROP EXTENSIONS AND OTHER GOODIES

Prop extension, fits small Continental \$150., 0-200 starter \$150., Old cylinders for lamps \$50. each. One man Midget Submarine. \$2,500. Curtis Clark 602 953-2571

### KITLOG SOFTWARE COMPANY

The KITLOG software company that provides a web based builder's log is for sale. It would be the perfect business for someone with good computer skills and a desire to travel to Fly-ins. Contact Chapter 1217 member Paul Besing at [pbsing@yahoo.com](mailto:pbsing@yahoo.com)

### MISCELLANEOUS ENGINES, PARTS, ETC.

Continental A65 Disassembled, all parts included, needs overhaul, best offer. Franklin 150hp. 500 hours, hasn't been running for years, cylinders have been removed, but are included; best offer. Continental O-145. Encountered prop strike, disassembled and magnafluxed, cases & rods ok, bad camshaft & engine gears. 400 hrs since new Millennium cylinders. \$3,000. Spinner and backplate off Stinson 108. \$165.00. Metal wingtips off a Cessna 170 - undamaged. \$140.00 each.

Dave Edmonds, Sharri Shelton's Dad, 209-533-0354

### LYCOMING 0-235-C1

673 SMOH, Sky Tec starter, removed from Long Eze for 0-320 upgrade. \$6500. Mark Boram 520-883-0672

### JEFFAIRE BARRACUDA PROJECT

Fuselage on gear, wings built. Instrument, gauges and a whole lot more. 80% complete. Must sell for only \$9,900. Hangered at Glendale, AZ. Call John 480-704-3250

## SERVICES

### Prop balancing, Annuals, Prebuys

Jim Berdick AI 623-581-9152

### Annuals, Restorations, Fabric Work

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-3442

### Aircraft Welding and Restorations

Evans Aviation 480-585-3119

### Airmen Physicals

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

### Aircraft Photography

Mike O'Connor [CrashOConnor@aol.com](mailto:CrashOConnor@aol.com)  
480-515-5105

### BFR's

Fred Lloyd 602-234-1940

### Machine Shop

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

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Ron Kassik [ronkassik@cox.net](mailto:ronkassik@cox.net) or 480-948-0168**

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