



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

March, 2010

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! In January we had the weather to deal with and in February we had issues with the computer (Mac) talking to our projector so maybe the demons will leave us alone for the rest of the year! Jason Stephens from Arizona Soaring had a great presentation put together on aerobatic glider flying until technology got in the way. He did present a really good talk on soaring, transitioning from power and the rich history of Estrella Sailport.

The Fly-in season got off to a great start with this year's Cactus Fly-In. It was really great to see everyone come out and enjoy a day or two in the sun with some really great old relics, and some cool planes too!

I hope to see everyone at the March 18th meeting!

Curtis

MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

The March meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, March 18th in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. This month's program will be on the POND RACER, BEYOND THE CUTTING EDGE. In this fully illustrated presentation, Michael Schrott will cover the design, construction, and flight test program of the most exotic aircraft ever to participate in the Reno National Air Races. Also to be revealed, classified drag coefficient reduction techniques used by the USAF, and a sneak peek into what tomorrow's future air racers will look like.

Remember guests are always welcome

CACTUS FLY-IN

This year's Cactus Fly-In is now in the history books for the 52nd consecutive year. It was a one hundred percent successful event with no bent props or scratched wingtips! A big part of the success was the large number of Chapter 1217 members who answered the call to go and help run this grassroots event. Thanks to everyone who helped out and we hope you come back next year.

Reports of a rainy Sunday caused a lot of the California crowd to stay home so the show plane attendance was smaller this year than in years past, but the quality of planes was really high. Even though the Fly-In is billed as an antique airplane fly-in, there was a huge warbird turnout. At one time there were three Mustangs, a Bearcat, Corsair, Yak 11, Spitfire, P-64, and SA-16 on the front row. Eleven CJ-6A's, a couple of T-34 Texans, Trojans, as well as a squadron of Stearmans made up the trainer section.

When the awards were passed out the Grand Champion went to a very rare Luscombe Phantom owned by Jim Rollison from Sacramento, California.

The Cactus Fly-In has a tradition of a laid back friendly fly-in with no air show needed. The constant stream of arriving and departing planes and an occasional flyby provide the entertainment. With no tower or waived airspace the Fly-In is all about the pilots and their great old planes both on the ground and in the air.

MAJOR AWARDS FOR THUNDERBIRD FIELD CHAPTER 1217 MEMBERS

David Roberts
Mike Braegger
Larry Keeling
Rusty Gavagon
Stu Bloemer

Waco RNF
Waco UPF- 7
RV-8
Cessna 140
Legend Cub

Best Antique Biplane
Best Open Cockpit Biplane
Best Homebuilt
Best Cessna
Door Prize



Grand Champion Luscombe Phantom owned by Jim Rollison, Sacramento, CA.

P-51 MUSTANG

DUAL INSTRUCTION

Chapter member Pat McGarry will be at Scottsdale Airport on April 18th as part of the Collings Foundation Wings of Freedom Tour.

Flying a Mustang is something that is on every pilots "Bucket List". Here is a chance to fly at Scottsdale, in the dual control TP-51C "Betty Jane" with a Chapter member who is also a CFI and will sign it off in your logbook as dual instruction. It is a donation to a worthwhile cause and you don't have to take days of travel with hotels, meals, and car rental to a distant location. When you look at the fact that you don't have to spend a week at Disney World with all your relatives so you can get a flight at Kissemmie, it's a great deal!

To Reserve a Flight Experience Slot Call **1-800-568-8924**. They will also have a B-17 and B-24 available for rides.

CHAPTER MEMBER FLIES WEST

Last month Chapter 1217 member Jim Swedback passed away. Just twelve months ago, Jim did a presentation on seaplane flying at the monthly meeting, and was instrumental in putting together the Seaplane Splash-In at Lake Pleasant that same month.

I first met Jim when he was driving a pontoon boat at the EAA Seaplane Base at Oshkosh. His zest for life was contagious and he told us of buying a place in Arizona for the winters and wanting to get involved with seaplane flying in Arizona.....Curtis



Jim Swedback with his Super Cub Seaplane on a lake in Minnesota

Seaplane pilot and staunch advocate for water flying as well as a good friend to everyone he met, Jim will be missed

Jim Swedback, 74, a cherished, much loved husband, father, and grandfather died recently at the Sherman Home Hospice Center in Scottsdale, Arizona, after a brave, dignified nine-month battle with cancer.

James Miller Swedback, pilot, arrived in this world on June 22, 1935, in Littlefork, Minnesota, and launched his eternal flight on February 24, 2010. He was raised in Big Falls, Minnesota, the son of the late Vern and Pat Miller Swedback, and brother of the late Joann Swedback Rector.

He served eight years in the Air Force as an Intelligence Specialist in California, Alaska, and Texas before moving back to Northern Minnesota where he began selling life insurance for Pioneer Mutual Life Insurance Company. During his 35-year career, Jim rose from the position of field agent selling

insurance in Northern Minnesota to become President and CEO of the company in Fargo, North Dakota.

Jim was a terrific role model to everyone and lived life by his motto, "Be Prepared for Opportunity." His grandchildren will remember a loving, hands-on grandpa who leaves indelible memories of glorious times at the lake that included plane rides in his Piper Super Cub, boating, 4-wheeling, snowmobiling, old cars and trucks and year round fun. He mentored family and friends taking a strong interest in the careers of many of his work associates long after he retired.

Jim's passion for flying rekindled after his retirement, and he added many new friends in the Fargo area and lake regions of Minnesota. The annual pilgrimage to Oshkosh, Wisconsin was a highlight for his close-knit group of pilot friends. Jim and Kate spent many wonderful retirement years living between Lake Heilberger in Minnesota and Scottsdale, Arizona in the winter.

Jim generously contributed his time to civic activities. He was president of the Lake Agassiz Kiwanas and the F-M Area Foundation, and he served on several boards, notably Norwest Bank and the Humane Society of Ottertail County. Jim worked much of his life with Boy Scouts of America and was past president of the Northern Lights Council of North Dakota

where he proudly received the **Silver Beaver Award**. Jim was an eternal optimist and a positive thinker throughout his life.

Seaplane pilot and staunch advocate for water flying as well as a good friend to everyone he met, Jim will be missed by all of us



Curtis and Terry overseeing a Great Fly-In



A Busy Chapter 1217 Volunteer



Bi-Plane Row at the Cactus Fly-In



Corsair Demonstrating its Folding Wing Capability while Preparing to Take Off



Cactus Fly-In Volunteer Center Fully Manned by Chapter 1217 Members

AIRPLANE NEEDS A NEW HOME

Billy Walker is helping to spread the word to help sell the late Brad Hurd's airplanes. His widow, Denise, is very anxious to sell both airplanes as well as their motor home. Brad had just completed his Varieze and taxied it but wasn't able to fly it before the ravages of his illness took over. The Varieze has a "0" time O-290 with several nice mod's such as a starter, etc. Also, he had a 1958 Cessna 172 with just 88 hours SMOH and a fairly low time airframe. The 172 has a fresh annual inspection. She also has a 32-foot Rehall Airbus motorhome with very low milage.

Denise would like to get around \$20,000 for the Varieze and Cessna 172. Denise Hurd 480-980-4400 or email Billy at BillyWalker@cox.net

DEER VALLEY BUSIEST GA AIRPORT IN USA

Air traffic at Phoenix Deer Valley Airport didn't slow down last year despite the economic recession. The general aviation airport gained 6.8 percent in takeoffs and landings, according to the Federal Aviation Administration. The airport had 402,335 takeoffs and landings in 2009, up from 376,634 in 2008.

DVT ranked Number 1 for the busiest general aviation airport in the country. The airport outperformed its longtime competitor, San Fernando Valley-based Van Nuys Airport, which had comparable landings and takeoffs.

That airport in California averaged more than 400,000 landings and takeoffs in 2005, when it clinched the world's busiest general aviation airport title.

The FAA's updated numbers for Van Nuys Airport shows 9 percent fewer airplanes landed and took off in 2009. Or about 351,233 airplanes landed or took off, down from 386,706 in 2008.

EAA B-17 COMING TO DVT

EAA's "Salute to Veterans" B-17 Tour is coming to Deer Valley Airport April 2-4. This one-of-a-kind tour brings the beautifully restored B-17 Flying Fortress "Aluminum Overcast" to local airports across the nation for flight experiences and walk-through tours. Out of more than 12,000 that were built, this aircraft is one of a handful of airworthy B-17s still flying.

EAA invites you to reserve a seat for a flight aboard this rare WWII bomber and experience "the ride of a lifetime." Pre-booked flights cost \$359 for EAA Members, and \$399 for non-Members. Walk-up prices are \$385 for EAA Members, and \$425 for non-Members. Seats are filling up fast, so pre-book your flight today and save \$26 off the walk-up price! It's a great experience you won't want to miss ... plus you'll be helping to support the preservation of aviation history and supporting aviation in your local community. To reserve a seat call 800-359-6217 or go to www.b17.org

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217. Contacts

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Chapter Website: www.ThunderbirdField.org

ThunderAds

FOR SALE

1995 JABIRU ST

2 place, 3300 cc Engine, 10 hrs. Total Time
Make Offer Al Ross cell: 602-320-7498

CESSNA 175 Skylark

TTSN 3,304hrs Franklin O-350 220 HP TTSN 355 hrs. Constant speed prop TTSN 355 hrs. Take off full gross 300 ft, climb out 1400 fpm. Hangared at AVQ \$59,000. (accepting offers) Bill Braden 520-682-7285 billw7xh@gmail.com

1980 SUPERCUB PA 18

150 Lyc, 960 TT, 80 hrs TOH, New Icom 210, Intercom Transponder King KT76A External Baggage Seaplane Kit \$85,000. Don Meloche (928) 951-4635, Cell (619) 838-2410 E-mail winslow42@cox.net

STANDS

Two 4-step stands to cover floats during installation. No standing on floats which can be damaging. Also 2 stands to go under floats that allow raising and lowering amphibian landing gear in work place. \$400 and \$100. Bill Grieme Floatmon @ cox.net

WHEELER EXPRESS PROJECT

\$10,000 My husband passed away and I have a complete kit that is 60% completed. Located in Fountain Hills. Bev Tall bevtall@talco.com

DIAMOND DA-40 PARTNERSHIP

Looking for partners in Diamond DA-40 based at SDL. Renzo Cataldo 480-227-3647

1979 CESSNA 182Q

Arizona Airplane on SDL Tie Down K137, TT 3500 hrs, Engine 1262 hrs. SOH, recent interior upgrades & wing tip replacement. Bill Maxey 602-820-5722 maxeybill@hughes.net

RV-10 PROJECT

RV-10 emp / tail cone kit. Switched to an RV-12. \$2,800.00 (negotiable). Some tools available if interested. Located in Prescott, AZ. Frank Benedict c-140@juno.com H: 928-778-1977 C: 928-899-8365

GRENGA GN-1 AIRCAMPER PROJECT

Biplane conversion but can be switched to a parasol. Fuselage covered and Elizado Tigre engine installed. \$6,000. Estate sale. Contact Lesley Morgan 480-834-4831 or e-mail Curtis at EAACchapter1217@aol.com to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

1979 CESSNA TURBO 182RG

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

WANTED

ROTAX ENGINE MECHANIC

Looking for a mechanic that works on the two stroke 582 rotax engine (used on a powered parachute). Ned Turner, Prescott, info@prescottshedandgarage.com

SERVICES

HOMEBUILT AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION

ABDAR Gary Towner 928 535-3600

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION- BFR'S

Alan Trabilcy alantrabilcy@yahoo.com, 480-747-0349 m or 480-948-1747 h

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 480-515-5105

BFR's

Fred Lloyd 602-793-6637

MACHINE SHOP

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

AIRCRAFT INTERIORS AND COVERS

No job to small! Kim 480-396-0688 interiors@airwestinc.com

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

Send an E-mail to: EAACchapter1217@aol.com

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