



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

March 2017

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month Chapter members Alan and Mary Travis opened up their mini-museum that showcased their antique automobile collection. The collection was unbelievable with each car perfectly restored and actually drivable. Thanks Alan!

The Cactus Fly-In was earlier this month and it was a great place to catch up with old friends and look at some cool planes. I had cataract surgery the afternoon before so I walked around in a bit of a haze all weekend. A lot of people drove down because of the forecast high wind advisory and many of the show planes stayed tucked in their hangars.

See you at the March meeting

Curtis

MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

The March meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held in the Scottsdale Aviation Business Center, 15041 North Airport Drive on Thursday March 16th. The time is 7 pm. The demolition date for our meeting room has been rescheduled for the first week of June so we have a few months of still being able to use the old building. This month's guest speaker will be Brian Head from Arizona Aircraft Painting at Falcon Field in Mesa. Brian's company has a state of the art paint booth that is completely sealed to the outside environment assuring a perfect dust free paint job every time. He is going to go over the process of painting your plane as well as show some of the planes they have painted.

Guests are always welcome!



Cindy Irish is a professional sky diver with the Misty Blues parachute team. She did the American flag jump at the Buckeye Airshow

CACTUS FLY-IN AWARD WINNERS

Best GA pre 1946	1946 Swift	N3890K	Paul Ross	San Diego, CA	
Best GA post 1946	Swick Taylorcraft	N4742	Jack Pollack	Scottsdale, AZ	EAA Chapter 1217
Best Military pre 1946	1943 North American SNJ5	N3680F	Lee & Carolyn Jones	Aquila, AZ	
Best Military post 1946	1956 T-34A Mentor	N56NM	Glenn Anderson	Sandia Park, NM	
People's Choice	1946 Globe Swift GC-1B	N78103	Karl Johanson	San Diego, CA	
Grand Champion	1943 North American SNJ5	N3680F	Lee & Carolyn Jones	Aquila, AZ	
Most Supportive Spouse			Carolyn Jones	Aquila, AZ	
Greatest Distance			Brent & Marcie Taylor	Blakesburg, IA	
Youngest Tailwheel Pilot			Hayden Newhouse	Glendale, AZ	EAA Chapter 1217

LANCAIR SALE COMPLETED

Lancair International has announced the sale of all of its out-of-production assets, Lancair brand, and Kit Components support assets to new ownership based in Uvalde, Texas.

The sale of all Non-Evolution Aircraft assets will be to Mark Huffstutler, founder of the Texas-based aircraft modification firm Sierra Industries and his son Conrad Huffstutler. The sale includes all assets, intellectual designs, and ongoing support business opportunities for all "out of production" Lancair aircraft kit models, including 320/360, IV, IV-P, ES and Legacy aircraft.

All inventories, production fixtures and support materials from Redmond, Oregon are presently being moved to their new home at Garner Field (KUYA) in Uvalde, Texas. The move will also involve bringing the assets and inventory from Lancair's facilities in the Philippines back to the United States.

Mark Huffstutler brings more than 35 years of aviation experience to his new role, both as a business owner and pilot. With multiple ratings and over 17,000 flight hours in piston, turbine, helicopters and experimental aircraft, Mark is a passionate advocate of private aviation. Since his early days developing

STC modifications for the Cessna 210 and multiple Citation jet models, he has gained extensive experience in experimental aircraft development and operation.

Mark's son Conrad Huffstutler, an experienced pilot and winner of the 2013 EAA "Golden Wrench" award for his painstaking Grumman FM-2 Wildcat restoration is also thrilled to be a part of the new Lancair team and will serve as President of the new Lancair organization. Mark, Conrad, and their team are excited to take on the support of the Lancair community and look forward to new developments in this unique family of aircraft.

From the new Uvalde home in Texas, Lancair plans to offer existing aircraft owners full support with parts, technical assistance and documentation as well as maintenance, repairs and inspections for Lancair and other experimental aircraft. In addition, on-site access to maintenance, avionics, paint and interior completion facilities will create a convenient "one-stop" solution for owners and kit builders. Future plans include the resumption of aircraft manufacturing and the introduction of new designs.

Kevin Eldredge, the President of Evolution Aircraft Company and chief architect of this

acquisition explains, "we have spent over eight months interviewing potential buyers for the Lancair assets. Mark Huffstutler and his team represent our perfect vision for re-igniting the Lancair brand and supporting the thousands of kit customers we have developed over 35 years. Their proven experience in the aviation industry and

passion for the Lancair product-line give us the confidence that they will do amazing things. Once a smooth transition is complete, my team at Evolution Aircraft Company will continue to focus our efforts on the development of the Evolution line of designs from our Redmond, Oregon headquarters."



Jack Pollack took his newly finished Swick Taylorcraft to the Cactus Fly-In and received the award for Best Post War Airplane. Chuck Bivennour and Jordan Ross are getting the story on building it from Jack.

AWARD WINNING CESSNA FOR SALE

Chapter member Don Lindholm has decided to part with his beautiful Cessna 170A. The plane was formally owned by another Chapter member and is in beautiful condition. A brief rundown is as follows:

1951 Cessna 170A...N1424D

2/15/2017: 4137.3 hours total time, SMOH. 367.0. (Also prop OH & engine mount refurbished). Last annual: 11/1/2016. Awards at OSH: 2005, 2007, 2008, Best in class 2013, Bronze Lindy

Avionics: Garmin 250XL, Bendix King 97A (VHF), Narco AT50A (transponder). Panel mounted four-way intercom, Fuel Scan 450 fuel flow EI digital EGT, outside temp & cylinder head temp. Alternator, digital voltage regulator new at MOH. Oil filter w/quick drain.

Circuit breakers, Polished aluminum with red trim, Original polished wheel pants. Flown weekly. Always hangered. Don Lindholm skycave@louisacomm.net



**Hayden Newhouse and his Smith Termite.
Hayden won the award for youngest pilot at this year's Cactus Fly-In**

EAA SPORT PILOT ACADEMY

2017 DATES

After a successful launch in 2016, EAA has announced three different sessions for the Sport Pilot Academy in 2017. A spring session held May 20 through June 10, and a fall session held September 9 to 30 will be available for general participants. The third session, held in August will be specifically for recipients of a scholarship for former Young Eagles.

The three-week, immersive, all-inclusive pilot training program is held at EAA headquarters in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. With dedicated aircraft and instructors, participants receive top-notch flight training without the hassle of scheduling and the hurdles of FBO training. Housing on the EAA grounds and daily meals are included in the price of \$9,999.

There is no better place to learn how to fly than at Oshkosh. Participants are fully immersed in aviation for the duration of the training at the home of the World's Largest Aviation Celebration. A variety of activities are included that make this a once in a March 2017

lifetime experience; cockpit climbs in the museum, guest speakers, flight experiences in EAA aircraft and even getting your picture taken on one of Wittman Regional Airport's "dots."

Information on the scholarships for former Young Eagles will be available March 1. Limited spots are available, and early applications are encouraged

FMI: <http://EAA.org/sportpilotacademy>

ROTAX ENGINE

REGISTRATION SYSTEM

BRP-Rotax constantly aims for improvement in order to provide their end customers not only with high quality products but also with the best quality of service. Therefore, the new easy-to-use engine registration system is an essential step on this journey.

Now, a new registration can be done by following a three-step process. As a first step, the customer enters all required registration data using the [online registration form](#). In the second step, the end customer receives a confirmation link via e-mail after

submitting the registration. By following this link, the data entered must be validated and needs to be confirmed by the customer. The confirmation link expires after 48 hours. After this time frame the customer has to redo the registration. Finally, the engine registration process submitted registration is validated by BRP-Rotax.

This new paperless engine registration process offers various advantages for Rotax aircraft engine owners. First of all, it is very important for BRP-Rotax to get to know their customers and their engines in operation. This allows optimization of the distribution and service network according to customer's needs.

Customers who agree to getting contacted by BRP-Rotax directly enjoy the advantage of receiving newsletters. Moreover, in the future also relevant notifications on engines, like new technical documentation, registered by the customer will be available. Another advantage is that in case of a reported engine theft a re-registration of this engine is impossible.

Since the launch of the new engine registration in December 2016, 320

customers have already registered their engines via the new online system; becoming part of the ROTAX family.

FMI: www.rotax.com, www.flyrotax.com



Cindy Irish started coming to our meetings about six months ago and said she wanted to buy an RV. After going for rides with a bunch of different Chapter members in almost every model of RV, she decided to buy this beautiful RV-6A in Lake Havasu City. And yes, she's the one doing the flag jump seen on page 1.



Brian Ryckmen flew John Levitz's 55 year old Aero Commander 500B to the Cactus Fly-In



**This rare bird is a super RV-8 powered by a 300 hp Lycoming 540.
It is owned by Chapter member Bill Lewallen**



Greg Brinker flew his RV-7A for the first time last month and now has the RV grin

US FLIGHT EXPO LETTER

My name is Jack Norris, I'm a member of Chapter 538 out of KDVT. I'm part of the team planning the US Flight Expo in May of this year. The event will be held at Marana Regional Airport May 3-6.

The genesis of the Expo is a vision by Greg Hobbs, Geronimo Experimental Aircraft, to have an event out west that one day can rival Sebring and Sun 'n Fun.

Greg has dutifully traveled around the United States exhibiting the Arion Lightning year in and year out. Why not have something out west that can be a mecca for pilots and well

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www.ThunderbirdField.com

attended by the leaders in aviation who also want to show their products west of the Mississippi?

Different than many events (other than Oshkosh), US Flight Expo is totally funded by the show itself through exhibitor and gate fees. The goal is to grow a world class event that will be self-funding. Unlike Sebring, DeLand and Sun 'n Fun, there is no municipal support only a permit.

We want to get the word out to as many pilots out west as possible. You represent those members in Arizona. We request that you forward our weekly e-mails highlighting the event to your membership so they can consider attending in their flight plans for May. Alternatively, send me the list and we can add them to our contact list.

The website is www.usflightexpo.com. We look forward to your participation. We will definitely need volunteers, so if you'd like to help out, please send us a message.

LEGAL DISCLAIMER It can not be confirmed if or if not Jack is the brother of TV Emmy & Oscar winning action star Chuck Norris

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

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

T-34 MENTOR PARTNERSHIP.

This is a turn-key, established partnership in a very nice Beech T-34. Plane is hangered at Falcon Field. Contact Lynn Miller 602 448-7487 or 602 585-0795 e-mail LynnMiller777@gmail.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

'65 MOONEY

Very clean, 4000TT, 22 hours SMOH, \$41K with new annual, Goodyear hangar, Joe Hobbs 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

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

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

SERVICES, ETC.

OIL COOLER REPAIR AND SALES

Chapter member owned. R & E Cooler Service 800-657-0977 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

HOMEBUILT 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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