



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

May, 2006

Scottsdale, Arizona

## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! In January 1998, Jack Pollack, Mark Lundell, Jim Clark, Terry Emig, Mark Nuessle, Bill Grieme, Mike Straley and I decided that a local EAA Chapter was needed here at Scottsdale Airport. I had fond memories of Chapter 26 meetings in Seattle at Pete Bowers shop when I was a kid and Mark Lundell remembered how much fun the EAA Chapter had at Ryan Field when he was attending U of A. We felt the best way to bring everyone together would be a Chapter right here at Thunderbird Field.

A name was chosen that reflected the best of times when biplanes filled the skies and round motors echoed off the cactus at a small Army Air Corp training field north of Scottsdale. After a few months of getting incorporated and completing the required secret handshake with EAA National in May of 1998 we had our first Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 meeting.

After eight years we have had a lot of fun, met some interesting speakers, some famous; some famous for that one night only. We have taken over one thousand kids for Young Eagle rides and have seen a few of our group fly over the horizon. Two hundred and ninety people have belonged to our Chapter at one time or another and I hope that the lives we touched have good memories of our Chapter and its members.

My goal always has been to get everyone involved, and if you are one of the core group that keeps us flying I thank you; you know who you are. If you haven't been real active or are new to the Chapter we want to encourage you to get involved, no one has

ever been turned away. This is your EAA Chapter and everyone has a voice no matter what your interest in sport aviation is.

I hope to see you at the May meeting! The cake is on me.

*Curtis*

## **MAY CHAPTER MEETING**

The May meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, May 18th, in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm.

This month's guest speaker will be Jim Timm who will bring us up to date on the proposed changes to the airspace here in the Phoenix area. He will cover Class Bravo changes as well as proposals by Luke Air Force base to increase the amount of airspace they restrict access to.

Jim is the former President of the Arizona Pilots' Association and has owned a Cessna 170 and LK-10A sailplane for many years as well as being a strong advocate for the sport pilot in Arizona. This promises to be an informative meeting so plan to attend - and remember, guests are always welcome. Since this is our Chapter anniversary also plan on bringing your appetite and enjoying birthday cake after the meeting!

## **NEW MEMBER**

At the April meeting we had **Lynn Miller** join our Chapter. Lynn is about to retire from the airlines and wants to get involved with the fun side of flying.

## FLIGHT PLANNING IN THE YEAR 2006

*By your esteemed Chapter President*

One of the great things about flying for the airlines is getting to roar around the United States to great destinations while burning someone else's gas. When we set out on a typical flight, all of the flight planning work is done for us by our Flight Dispatchers. All of the weather, routes, fuel loads, TFRs and anything else that might be of passing interest is presented to the pilots in the form of a dispatch release. This is a great way to fly, but spoils the pilots when they have to plan a flight in a small plane. They are completely lost!

Last month I had the opportunity to pick up a plane for one of our Chapter members in Spanish Fork, Utah and actually decided to use all the flight planning aids that were available in the modern computer age. First thing was to visit the local pilot shop and pick up a current chart (they do expire) and an Airfield Facility Directory or AFD as the kid at the counter called it. They had all sorts of fancy versions with pictures but the FAA book was only \$4.20 - by far the best value and the soft easy tear pages could serve double duty if one were forced down.

The next step was to avail myself of some of the online flight planning tools. My first stop was Airnav, [www.airnav.com](http://www.airnav.com). This site was very user friendly and had all sorts of airport of departure information and taxiway diagrams. This site even offered an overview of fuel prices for the entire country as well as a cross-country fuel-planning guide. You can enter your given route and it will list all the fuel prices along it and recommend the lowest priced fuel stops. This could save a bunch of money on long trips.

Stop number two was the XC Pilot website, [www.xcpilot.com](http://www.xcpilot.com), which seemed to be the same information in a different format. This site seemed to have more information on land stuff like hotels, rental cars and local attractions. It also had information on airport restaurants, which was particularly helpful.

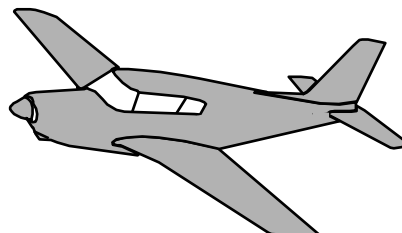
This site also has airport diagrams that could be printed and used for reference.

Stop number three was to a site called Airstrip America, [www.airstripamerica.com](http://www.airstripamerica.com), which has actual pictures of most airports in the USA. It also had pictures of what it would look like if you were on final approach to a lot of the airports. This site had tons of pictures of grass strips, airparks, taxiways and landmarks. While most of this information is entertaining, its actual use as a flight planning aid was limited.

Armed with all the information from these websites, I made a call to Prescott Flight Service, a division of Lockheed-Martin, to check on TFRs and current NOTAMs, and to get the N-number on record that I actually check these kinds of things; I was almost ready to go. There was only one thing left to do. A quick call to Chapter 1217 member Manfred Kreiselmeir, who is also a Flight Dispatcher for America West, asking him if he wants a little multi-engine time and to don't forget to print up a flight release and weather and bring it along with him!

## OSHKOSH NOTAM AVAILABLE

What better way to start the month of May than to download your very own copy of the official EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2006 Notice to Airmen. Beginning this week, the NOTAM will be available on the EAA AirVenture website, allowing you to familiarize yourself with arrival and departure procedures for the World's greatest Aviation Celebration. The printed NOTAMs are also expected to be available soon, but you can order your copy today through EAA Membership Services, 800-564-6322. These NOTAMs are free of charge and make great gifts.



## WHO WORKS AT THE FSDO?

By Chris Clark, AST

At the Federal Aviation Administration's Flight Standards District Office in Scottsdale – affectionately called Scottsdale FSDO – there are about 50 employees. We have a manager, four supervisors, an administrative officer and administrative technician, four aviation safety assistants, two aviation safety technicians, a computer specialist, and about three dozen inspectors.

The manager is responsible for the overall operations of the office. His management team includes the supervisors, administrative officer and administrative technician. Together they oversee budget and staffing for the office.

The supervisors assign work, such as operator and designee oversight as well as on-demand work that includes investigations and air show waivers, and see that the work is done correctly and within specified timeframes.

The aviation safety assistants greet visitors at the counter, direct incoming phone calls, perform data input, and process and distribute a huge array of documents.

The aviation safety technicians take complaints from citizens about low-flying aircraft, calls about aircraft accidents and incidents, review airman files submitted by designated pilot examiners (your check ride paperwork after you've received an airman certificate), issue certain kinds of certificates such as renewed flight instructors and student pilot certificates, process waivers and authorizations such as for parachute jumps and aerobatic practice areas, and answer a whole lot of questions about a variety of FAA topics.

The computer specialist keeps our computers running smoothly. There is a lot of trouble shooting to be done when new software is installed. Sometimes this means putting in long hours to update 50 or more individual

computers after some major software changes. It is a big responsibility.

All FSDOs have operations and airworthiness inspectors. Airworthiness includes maintenance and avionics inspectors. Scottsdale FSDO is lucky to have both air carrier and general aviation inspectors. Most come to the FAA from private industry. Some come from law enforcement, and some come from military backgrounds. The inspectors are responsible for oversight of their assigned operators who hold certificates such as for Part 141 pilot schools, Part 142 training centers, Part 135 and 121 air carriers, Part 145 repair stations, Part 137 agricultural operators, and Part 133 external load operators. They oversee designees such as pilot examiners, designated airworthiness representatives (DARs), and designated mechanic examiners (DMEs). They investigate complaints, aircraft accidents and incidents including pilot deviations and near mid-air collisions. They issue waivers for and monitor air shows.

If you would like to explore more information about FAA employment, visit [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov) and click on Jobs.

## NEW AME VISITED

David Roberts renewed his medical last month and reports that it was a very enjoyable visit. So if you need an AME, you might give this doctor a try, he is fair, honest, and David came away with a smile on his face!

Biltmore Family Physicians

**KIM DAVID JOHNSON, M.D.**

Arcadia Medical Plaza

4840 E. Indian School Road #101

Phoenix, AZ 85018

602.224.1900

## COMMENTS ON AIRSPACE CHANGES

As you might know, the "Northwest 2000" route changes, as well as other traffic flow issues, have initiated the proposed re-design of the Phoenix Class B airspace. The comment period is open until June 3rd. Your comments should be sent in triplicate (that would be three times).

Because of some confusion about where comments should be sent, AOPA is recommending they be sent (in triplicate) to both the Phoenix and Los Angeles addresses as follows:

Air Traffic Manager, Arizona Hub  
Federal Aviation Administration  
2800 E. Sky Harbor Blvd.  
Phoenix, AZ 85034.

Manager  
Air Traffic Western Terminal Services Area,  
Federal Aviation Administration,  
P.O. Box 92007,  
Los Angeles, CA 90009-2007

A large amount of information on the proposed change (but not necessarily the views & opinions of the FAA) can be found by visiting the Arizona Pilots Association's website at <http://www.azpilots.org> and scrolling down to the bottom.

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Chapter website			<a href="http://www.ThunderbirdField.org">www.ThunderbirdField.org</a>



# *ThunderAds*

## **FOR SALE**

### **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

### **1972 G33 BONANZA**

260 hp, 950 since reman engine and new 3-blade prop. King, Garmin 195 GPS, 3-Axis AP, Annual 1/06 \$99,900 obo. 602-441-0093 [joseph.hobbs@cox.net](mailto:joseph.hobbs@cox.net)

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

REDUCED from \$1500 to \$1350. Never used. Cleveland Complete Sheet Metal Airframe Tool Package (I paid \$1670 2 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). \$1,350 for everything. Will sell videotapes and tool set individually. Contact Chapter 1217 member Denny Myrick 480-502-0547.

### **GlaStar Fixtures**

All fixtures to build a GlaStar airplane. Will take \$150. Bill Grieme 480-998-9164

### **Lycoming O-235-C1**

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

### **SKYBOLT PROJECT**

Most major work complete. Hangered at DVT. \$10,000. Stuart McDonald 602-954-9343

### **JEFFAIRE BARRACUDA PROJECT**

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

## **WANTED**

**Used HVLP spray gun and turbine** (not Harbor Freight Please) Call Wendel Waltz 602-770-9245

## **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 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

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

**Send an E-mail to  
EAChapter1217@aol.com**

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

