



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

May, 2008

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Lee Owens talked about flying a Rotax 912 powered Titan 51 replica around the world at our April meeting. His primary message was to create awareness of the Tuskegee Airmen and the part they played in US military history. It was an interesting presentation and I for one hope he does a little more "risk analysis" before heading across the Atlantic.

On the Saturday after our May Chapter meeting we will have our annual May-Day Fly-in/Drive-in. Everyone is invited, so plan to come out and enjoying BBQ and visiting with your Chapter friends. Guests and family are always welcome. We ordered enough food for 70 meals so no one should go hungry.

I hope to see everyone at the May meeting.

Curtis

MAY CHAPTER MEETING

The May meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, May 15th, in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. This month we are going to have two pilots for Arizona Game and Fish Department bring over a "Wildlife tracking spyplane" and talk to us about their mission and aircraft. Thanks to Chapter member Dick McNaney for coming up with the idea to have them speak. Remember guests are always welcome!

NEW MEMBERS

We had three new members join at the April meeting. Stew Bloemer, Pete Gross, and Glen Ottosen joined our ranks. Stew is building a Legend Cub quick build kit at the factory and is making amazingly fast progress. Welcome them to our Chapter when you meet them.

CHAPTER 1217 MAY

FLY-IN / DRIVE-IN

This year's annual Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 Fly-in / Drive-In will be held on Saturday May 17th. Jack Pollack has donated his front row hangar on the north side at Deer Valley airport for this year's event. Things get underway around 10am with planes arriving and setup. If you are flying in, park amongst the L-39 jets and be sure to bring wheel chocks. At noon time we will be having an old fashioned hangar BBQ catered by Tom's BBQ from Mesa. It is being paid for by the Arizona Antique Airplane Association as a way of saying thanks to everyone from our Chapter for our support in staffing their Cactus Fly-in. Everyone is welcome so bring your family and friends, there will be plenty of food and drinks to go around. If you are driving in go to the north perimeter road and go to the west entrance for the hangars. Signs will be posted, you can also call 602-710-4494, and we will come down and let you through the gate. It might be a good idea to bring lawn chairs to sit on.

BILLY WALKER'S

NOT SO NEW PLANE

This month Chapter 1217 member Billy Walker added another Stearman to the ever growing squadron here in Arizona. Billy's new airplane was previously owned by Roger Parrish's brother in Illinois. It is painted in the classic Army Air Corps blue and yellow and is powered by a Continental W-670. The Coast Guard Stearman that Billy had previously owned in partnership with Joe Sottile is now Joes, so they can all fly at once!

ROCKET RACING IS HERE

With news reports of over 130,000 people showing up in San Diego for the Red Bull Air Races earlier this month, it could be that aviation competition as a spectator sport is alive and well.

The Rocket Racing League® (RRL), the new entertainment sports league that combines the exhilaration of racing with the power of rocket engines, recently announced that the First Exhibition Race of the Rocket Racing League will take place on August 1st and 2nd at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI. In addition to announcing the dates of the First Exhibition Races, the Rocket Racing League also announced the remaining series of exhibition races for the rest of 2008, the acquisition of Velocity Aircraft by Rocket Racing Composites Corp., and also that Armadillo Aerospace will manufacture liquid oxygen (LOX)-alcohol engines for the Rocket Racing League.

First Exhibition Race

On August 1st and 2nd, the first Exhibition Race will be held at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI, the largest air show in the world. For the first time ever, two Rocket Racers will compete head-to-head in a demonstration race on the raceway in the sky. The Rocket Racer pilots will view the "raceway in the sky" via in-panel and 3-D helmet displays and the 700,000 people in attendance at EAA AirVenture will witness the racing action live and on multiple large projection screens.

"The first Exhibition Race of the Rocket Racer is an important milestone in the progression of the Rocket Racing League" said Granger Whitelaw, Chief Executive Officer of the Rocket Racing League. "We look forward to sharing the experience and thrill of rocket racing with the public."

"EAA has followed the development of the Rocket Racing League concept with great interest," said EAA President Tom Poberezny.

"We are excited about the opportunity to develop a whole new audience of aviation enthusiasts, while at the same time promoting aviation innovation."

Exhibition Race Schedule

Following the first Exhibition Race at EAA AirVenture, the RRL will hold exhibition races at venues around the country, including:

- Reno National Championship Air Races (Reno, NV) – September 10-14
- X-Prize Cup (Las Cruces, NM) – TBD 2008
- Aviation Nation, Nellis AFB, (Las Vegas, NV) – November 8-9

Velocity Aircraft Acquisition

Rocket Racing Composite Corporation, a subsidiary of the RRL, announced the acquisition of Velocity Aircraft of Sebastian, FL, a leading manufacturer of four-seat canard pusher experimental aircraft. Under the terms of the agreement, Velocity Aircraft will become a wholly owned division of Rocket Racing Composite Corp, and will produce an airframe that will be consistent for all competing Rocket Racers®. Through rigorous research and development, all Velocity-constructed Rocket Racers will be equipped with the safest-possible airframe. The cockpit seats for all Rocket Racers will be reinforced to withstand impacts up to 20G load and other safety measures will be added using a methodology similar to that of Formula-1 and Indy Car racers to better protect pilots and passengers alike.

Scott Baker, President of Velocity, Inc. offered his enthusiastic remarks that, "Velocity is truly excited to be a part of Rocket Racing. Many of the technology advances that are planned for the Rocket Racer models transcend, and offer performance and comfort benefits to Velocity owners who use their aircraft for personal and business travel."

Armadillo Aerospace

Rocket Racing is also pleased to announce

that Armadillo Aerospace in Mesquite, Texas will be providing LOX-alcohol engines for the Rocket Racing League. A leading provider of reusable rocket-powered vehicles, Armadillo Aerospace is focused on vertical takeoff, vertical landing (VTVL) suborbital research and passenger flights, with an eye towards eventual paths to orbit.

“Flying people on our rockets has been our goal from day one, and we are excited to work with the Rocket Racing League to provide a system that will be safe for the pilots, cost effective and robust for the teams, and spectacular for the crowds,” said John Carmack, President of Armadillo Aerospace.

About The Rocket Racing League

Founded in 2005 by two-time Indianapolis 500 winning team partner Granger Whitelaw and X-PRIZE Chairman and CEO Peter H. Diamandis, the Rocket Racing League is a new entertainment sports league that combines the exhilaration of racing with the power of rocket engines. To be held at venues across the country, the Rocket Racing League will feature multiple races pitting up to 10 Rocket Racers going head to head in a four-lap, multiple elimination heat format on a five-mile “Formula One”-like closed circuit raceway in the sky. For more information on the Rocket Racing League, please visit www.rocketracingleague.com.



While visiting Sun-n-fun, Jack Pollack got to fly the twin to his Chipmunk. This one has had the Gypsy engine replaced with a Lycoming. It flew as good as it looked!

EAA CHAPTER 586

FLY-IN BREAKFAST

White Mountain EAA Chapter 586 will be having their annual Pancake Breakfast Saturday June 7th, from 7 to 11am at the Show Low Regional Airport (SOW). They invite everyone to come enjoy the food, aircraft, military displays, etc. They also will be providing free transportation to and from the Show Low Days Car Show at the city park. The cost for the breakfast is \$5.00 adults, \$3.00 for kids 12 & under. Breakfast is FREE to Men and Women in Military uniform. AVGAS will be discounted 20 cents/gallon for those who buy breakfast. All profits go to promote general aviation. Airport information includes: CTAF 123.00, Elev. 6412', runways 6-24 & 3-21, AWOS 118.075, open to the public 24hrs. Contact Don Stier 928-537-4556, or go to www.eaa586.com

CHAPTER 1044 PANCAKE FLY-IN

Mogollon Air Park and EAA Chapter 1044 invite all to attend their pancake fly-in on Saturday, June 21, from 7 to 11am. The cost is \$6 for pancakes, bacon, coffee, juice, and fruit. Profits go for community non-profits. Airport (AZ82) details: CTAF 122.9, click on the mike three times for AWOS advisories, Altitude is 6658', Rwy 21 is the normal runway. Details about the field can be found on www.AZ82.com. Contact Bob Boyd, 928-535-3196 for questions. This is the only date non-homeowners may fly into the field.

DRILL AROUND CORNERS

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AIRPORT CLUB CARS

Do you ever wonder who owns all those cars sitting at your favorite fly-out destination? Wouldn't it be nice to have access to use one for a quick run to town to find a good meal or a motel. A company is attempting to network those people that leave cars sitting so their members can use them. Click on www.airportcarsclub.com to learn more.

GLENDALE AIRPORT RESTAURANT

Submitted by Jordan Ross

The restaurant at the Glendale Airport has reopened as the Flights of Fancy Restaurant. The restaurant phone is 623-561-2433. Hours are 7am to 3pm and they said that they have a fish fry on Fridays from 5 to 8pm. When I had breakfast there, the food was good and so was the service.

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217. Contacts

President	Curtis Clark	602 953-2571	EAAChapter1217@aol.com
Vice President	Terry Emig	520 836-7447	dprez@cactusflyin.org
Secretary/Treasurer	Jack Pollack	480 525-1885	Jack.Pollack@Analyticalgroup.com
Newsletter Editor	Ron Kassik	480 948-0168	ronkassik@cox.net
Young Eagles	Bob Kruse	480 391-1228	Point9Kruse@aol.com
Technical Counselors	Dan Muxlow	480 563-4228	N27DM@cox.net
	Jim Berdick	623 293-2708	Berdick@qwest.net

Chapter Website: www.ThunderbirdField.org

NEW AIRPORT ON PORTUGUESE ISLAND OF MADEIRA

Info from Hal Rozema

The runway length is 9,000 ft. of which 3,000 ft. is supported by 180 pillars, each pillar is some 163 ft. in length (about 17 floors).

The runway is designed to accommodate 747s. Note that cars are parked under the runway. It's a bit like landing on an aircraft carrier. Don't even think about running off that runway!



ThunderAds

FOR SALE

1979 Cessna 182Q

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

25 Gallon Aux tank

For Sale. Dick Wall 602-809-0214

WAG-AERO CUB

Completed in 1999; approximately 200 TT; 65 h.p. Continental approximately 700 SMOH; Cub yellow; no electric; excellent condition; light sport aircraft. Contact Don Lindholm at 602-996-3612 or dlindholm@bcatorneys.com

RV-10 PROJECT

Switched to an RV-12. RV-10 emp / tail cone kit. \$2800.00 (negotiable) for the project. Savings of over \$700. Some tools that may be included if interested. Project located in Prescott, AZ. Frank Benedict c-140@juno.com 928-778-1977 H 928-899-8365 C

ROTAX 618

200 hours SMOH, Hegy prop. Bernie Gross 480 585-0699 or BernieFD88@aol.com

RANS S-5 COYOTE

Tricycle gear, Rotax 447, two 9 gal. tanks, airspeed, ALT, HGT, EGT, elect fuel pump, hr meter, Sporty Radio SP-200. Hangered at GEU. \$6000 602-300-0007

TEAM TANGO KIT

80% assembled in Tempe. \$24K for the complete kit and \$5k for the complete Subaru Engine, gauges Bart D. Hull 480-452-9208 (Cell)

TITAN TORNADO II

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GLASTAR PROJECT

Lycoming 0-320 engine. Located at Carefree Airport. Al Ross 480 595-9579

ANYWHERE MAP GPS

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CESSNA SKYMASTER PARTNER

Looking for qualified partner to share this well equipped, pressurized, well maintained twin that is in a legal hangar at DVT. Bill Pabst 602-953-2034

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 to receive a digital slideshow of the plane.

1979 CESSNA TURBO 182RG

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

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

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. 80% complete. Must sell for only \$9,900. Hangered at Glendale, AZ. Call John 480-704-3250

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

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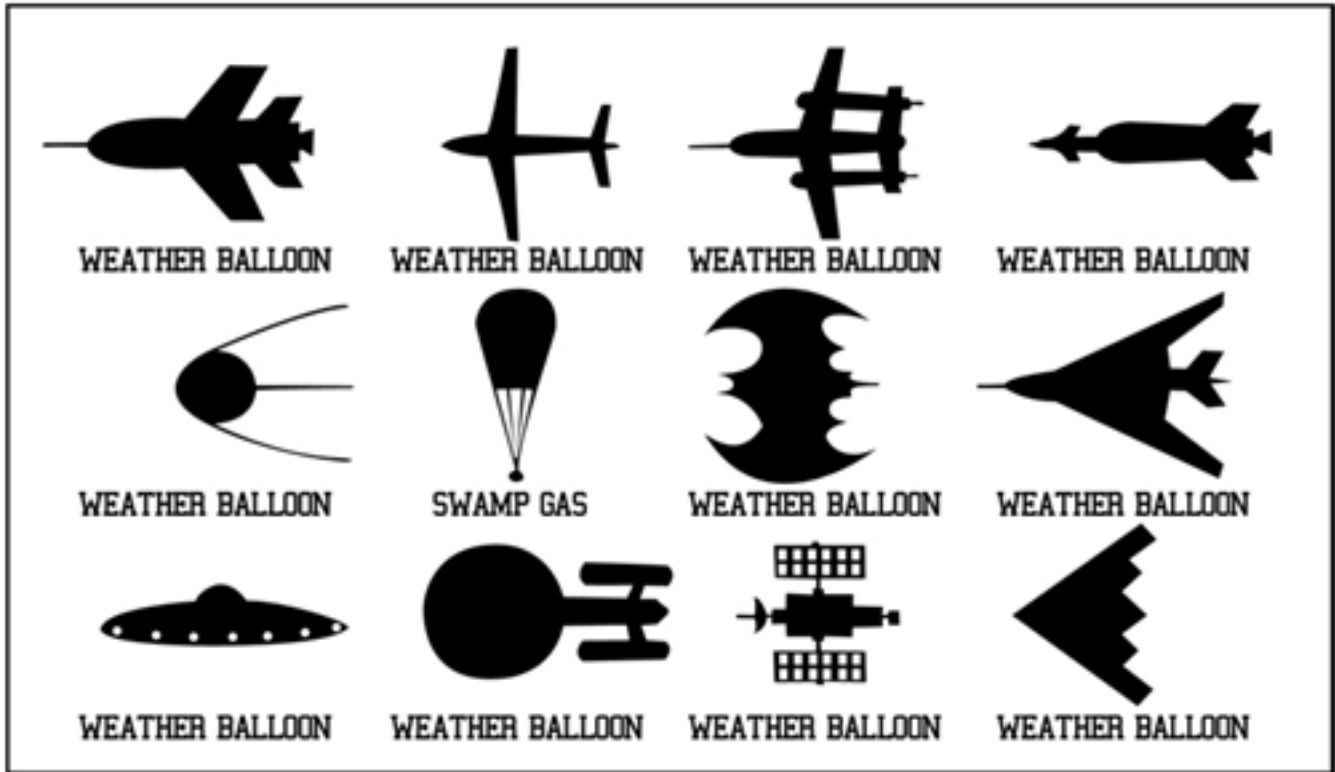
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**Thunderbird Field
EAA Chapter 1217
5450 East Voltaire
Scottsdale, Arizona 85254**

