



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

September, 2006

Scottsdale, Arizona

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Flying season is finally here and it's great to see summer as a distant memory. The really strange thing is that even on the hottest days, when hangar temperatures are over 140 degrees, there is always someone working on a project in their hangar. We may not be the smartest bunch but we are tough. With the nice fall weather upon us, I hope that each of you will come down and give a couple of Young Eagle rides at our annual YE Airlift. It's a great experience and the kids really appreciate it! If you have never done any rides it's pretty simple and a lot of fun. We really need the Cessna 170, 180, 182 and 185 types that can haul three riders at a time.

I hope you can make it to the September meeting!

*Curtis*

## SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

The September meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, September 21st, in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. This month's guest speaker will be Captain Tony Anger who is going to tell us how his aviation career got off to a wild start when he ran off to join the circus, the Flying Circus that is! Remember guests are always welcome!

## THE FLYING CIRCUS

Drive down the gravel road and past the tilted ticket booth, and the time machine turns on. Ragtime tunes jingle in the background. Little boys wait in line to buy balsa wood planes to build at home. Spectators settle on wooden benches, saved from the heat by ice cream and chunks of watermelon. The biplanes with

their bright colors are ready to go. And the hayrides are hunkering down for the day.

Bealeton's Flying Circus is about to begin. Each Sunday since 1970 the skies over eastern Virginia are full of old biplanes, Cubs and colorful hot air balloons. On 200 acres of farmland, forty owners led by the unflappable John D. King, president of the Flying Circus Corporation, the tradition of the American Flying Circus is kept alive.

Flying Circuses became popular in the 1920's. "Americans had never seen airplanes before," said King, whose father, son and nephew are part of the show. "They had heard tell of aviation," he told a recent Sunday crowd. "But they had never seen an airplane up close."

Pilots fresh from World War I were eager to show off their newfound knowledge of flying machines, and the postwar crowds were insatiable. Wing walkers, skydivers, pilots and other modern day risk-takers still dare to do some of the same stunts at The Flying Circus.

On a recent Sunday afternoon, the announcer's voice was lost as propellers started to spin and the bright planes roared toward the clouds, one by one. Skydivers looked like dots until their multicolored parachutes popped open on the downward drift toward the crowd.

The Flying Circus air show, started in a farmer's field, was the brainchild of aviators who wanted to bring the thrill of "barnstorming"--so popular in the postwar period--back to the present. Eventually, they

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sold the idea of the circus to a group of members who owned biplanes. Thirty-six years after it began, the air show continues to re-create "the golden years of flight." In addition to wing walking, parachuting and aerobatics, the circus keeps crowds entertained with plenty of comedic routines. Flour bombing, balloon busting, mail (and female) pickup--even a collapsible outhouse--keep the audience guessing.

For 36 years, the Flying Circus has been barnstorming the skies near U.S. 17, treating visitors to a spectacular show of aerobatic feats and campy 1940s humor. In addition to the vintage biplanes, the circus has skydivers and wing-walkers. "It's the kind of show that is fun for all ages," pilot John King said. "It takes you back to a time when people loved to fly their planes.

Children of all ages scramble for the pieces of bubble gum and shiny confetti tossed into the crowd during the show. And when the last plane has landed, the gates to the airfield open, and everyone gets a chance to collect autographs from the pilots and daredevils. "It was an ideal family outing," one mother said. "Kids today spend too much time in front of the screen. This is real."

### **EXCITING FUTURE GUEST SPEAKERS**

Each month we try and find new and interesting guest speakers for our Chapter meetings. Some of the future guest speakers we are working on are:

Sanders Achen adventure to the Artic Circle in his R-44 helicopter and four Cessna 180 floatplanes last month.

Steve Weineke will give us a look back on his career as a carrier pilot in the Navy.

Rich Bauman will talk to us about being an F-117 Stealth Fighter pilot.

Ron Rosenhan will tell us the story of Wellings Wing.

Brian Mitchell from AeroShell will give a presentation on aviation lubricants.

Tony Holden will present his giant scale RC aerobatic planes.

After seven years of finding guest speakers sometimes it gets down to the wire on finding them. If you have an idea for a presentation give Curtis a call at 602-710-4494.

### **YOUNG EAGLE AIRLIFT**

Saturday October 21st will be the date of our annual Young Eagle Airlift at the Casa Grande Airport. This will be our eighth year of putting on this event for the Boy Scouts. For the past two years we put a cap of 130 kids and ended up giving about 110 Young Eagle rides. We desperately need your involvement in this event! We need pilots, planes, loaders, and lots of ramp safety people to keep everyone out of the props and rotors. If you can participate please contact Curtis Clark or Terry Emig so we can get an idea of how many planes and people we will have.

### **EAA B-17 COMING TO DVT**

EAA's national B-17 tours have taken place each spring and fall beginning in 1994, allowing tens of thousands of people to experience this unique airplane up close through flights and aircraft ground tours. Thousands of aviation enthusiasts have flown in the renowned bomber, which is considered one of the greatest military airplanes ever built and one of the best-known aircraft types of the World War II era.

Flight "missions" are available, allowing people to take flights in this spectacular aircraft. For more information, including ground tour and flight rates, visit the [www.b17.org](http://www.b17.org), or contact the tour office at 800-359-6217. Special pre-book rates on flights are available for EAA members and non-members, and group rates are available for ground tours by schools or other large groups.

## **COPPERSTATE FLY-IN**

Copperstate Regional EAA Fly-In will be held at the Casa Grande Municipal Airport (CGZ) Casa Grande, Arizona on October 26-29, 2006. This year will not have an airshow, so you will be able to fly in and out all day. Be sure and check the NOTAMs for temporary tower frequencies and special arrival procedures. You can go to [www.copperstate.org](http://www.copperstate.org) on the internet for more information.

## **FLABOB PLANS VETERANS' DAY EXTRAVAGANZA**

Flabob Airport will be turned into a temporary mock military base in observance of Veterans' Day on Sunday, November 12. Though the theme is designed to honor the men and women who have served in the armed forces, "Camp Flabob" will remain open to the public. Organizers invite pilots with aircraft of any kind to fly in for the day and participate in the festivities including live music and a "USO Stage" featuring stand up comics and sketches. Several aircraft fly-bys are also planned, and there will be the opportunity to buy rides in a DC-3 or biplane. A mortar range will be set up with water balloons substituting for explosives, and the EAA Chapter One hangar is being converted to a movie house to run classic military films all day. A special salute to Veterans is planned for 1 p.m. and a parade at 2:30. Admission is free. For more information or directions, contact Kathy Rohm at 951-683-2309, ext. 104.

## **HOMEBUILDING BANNED IN JACK CITY**

A narrowly written city ordinance that bans construction of aircraft and airboats at Jacksonville, Fla. residences has EAA acting on behalf of its membership in that city, and to prevent similar arbitrary bans in other areas of the country. The ordinance, passed in June, specifically bans the building or restoring of

anything that flies or is intended to leave the ground. It was written to solve a single dispute between an EAA member and some of his neighbors, who contended the project was noisy and caused an eyesore.

"A number of communities and individual residential subdivisions have restrictions on mechanical construction or repair projects in residential areas, but these apply to all types of projects, such as cars, boats, home remodeling and so forth," said Earl Lawrence, EAA's vice president of industry and regulatory affairs.

"It seems quite unfair that an aircraft builder could not quietly fit two parts together while a neighbor might be able to rebuild and engine test a muscle car next door."

After learning of the new ordinance, EAA Legal Advisory Council member Pat Phillips contacted Jacksonville city attorneys to discuss the background of the ordinance, and to reiterate that such a narrowly focused regulation might not stand court scrutiny.

According to an August 20 article in the Florida Times-Union, city officials are now admitting that the ordinance may need "tweaking". "We can imagine the outcry from the public if Jacksonville passed a rule saying residents could not work on automobiles, boats or motorcycles at their own homes", Lawrence said. "Just because the majority of city residents do not have airplane projects is no reason to discriminate against those who do this lawfully".

Lawrence added that noise and nuisance ordinances in most communities handle such situations and should be used instead of a blanket ban. EAA will continue to monitor the situation to ensure fairness in such regulations. For more information regarding this issue, a website has been created by those affected in Jacksonville. That website can be accessed at [www.jaxairplane.com](http://www.jaxairplane.com)

## SYNERGY AIR SETS FIBERGLASS TECHNIQUES COURSE

Synergy Air of Eugene, Oregon, will host a two-day, hands-on course covering the basics of fiberglass materials, as well as techniques and tricks necessary to finish a canopy, cowling, landing gear fairings, and wingtips to a professional level. Fiberglass - the Complete Picture will be held at Synergy Air's classroom hangar on Mahlon Sweet Field October 6-7 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. The course costs \$350 per person. For more information visit [www.synrgyair.com](http://www.synrgyair.com) or call 541-913-0610.

## THE FLYBOYS ARE HERE !

Several pilot groups across the country are planning special "Flyboys Night Out" events to celebrate the wide release of *Flyboys*, which opens at theaters nationwide on Friday, September 22. The movie, which premiered at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2006, depicts the story of the Lafayette Escadrille, an American air squadron that fought for France before the United States entered the war against Germany. It's also the first WWI movie to come out of Hollywood in forty years. In New York City, an event involving members of EAA, CAP, AOPA, the Ninety-Nines and others is being organized.

Those interested in hosting a "Flyboys Night Out" event should contact Luke Thivierge at [luke.thivierge@airshowsponsorship.com](mailto:luke.thivierge@airshowsponsorship.com) for assistance with door prizes, such as including movie posters signed by the cast and/or WWI model airplanes, along with and local media coverage.

The movie has numerous ties with EAA, starting with director Tony Bill, aircraft builder Robert Baslee, who was contracted to build four Nieuport airplanes in 52 days for the film; and aerobatic pilot and EAAer David Ellison, who performed at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2003 as one of the Stars of Tomorrow and makes his acting debut as one of the Lafayette Escadrille pilots.

Scheduled events will also be listed on a website, [www.flyboysnightout.com](http://www.flyboysnightout.com). To view the main movie website, visit [www.flyboysthemovie.com](http://www.flyboysthemovie.com)



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# *ThunderAds*

## **FOR SALE**

### **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 pbesing@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

### **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 \$1,500. to \$1,100. 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). \$1,100 for everything. Will sell videotapes and tool set individually. Contact Chapter 1217 member Denny Myrick 480-502-0547 or e-mail: [dennymyrick@cox.net](mailto:dennymyrick@cox.net).

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

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