



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

March 2022

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar. At the February meeting Chapter Vice President Terry Emig lined up Ed Newberg to do a little singing and a little story telling. It was a very entertaining evening learning about Ed's history and his airplane and helicopter collection. His aviation themed songs were very well done and it was a fun light hearted evening.

The Copperstate Fly-In was held last month and between the dirt parking area, airspace closure NOTAMs and work, I elected not to attend. The STOL Drags were a big hit from everyone I have talked to and with an improved schedule in ten months I look forward to going next year.

One of our Chapter 1217 family, Terry Johnstone, took home the trophy for Best Amateur Built Light Sport for his Kit Fox 7SS at Copperstate. He built the plane in his hangar at Deer Valley and did an outstanding job. Terry is a retired airline captain and had a pretty steep learning curve but his award-winning craftsmanship yielded a really nice plane.

Thanks to Steve Thompson we have a bunch of Copperstate pictures in this month's newsletter for everyone to enjoy.

See you around the aerodrome!

Curtis

MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

The March meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, March 17th, beginning at 7 pm in the Thunderbird Room Scottsdale Airport Terminal building. The address is 15000 North Airport Drive.

This month John Washington recruited Morgan Lowe to be our guest speaker and

share with us the adventures of the "Spirit of Fun".

Morgan Loew is an investigative reporter at CBS 5 and 3 TV in Phoenix, Arizona, and teaches at Arizona State University's Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Morgan is a graduate of the University of Arizona Journalism School and Concord Law School.

In 1932, Morgan's grandfather, Arthur Loew, Sr, (president of MGM Studios) embarked upon a remarkable around-the-world adventure in a Lockheed Model 9 Orion named "Spirit of Fun," which ended tragically in a crash at the edge of Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River in Southern Africa.

Morgan Loew spent years researching Spirit of Fun's one-year reign as the greatest private plane in the world, the impact of the trip on the fledgling private business aviation industry, and how it expanded Hollywood's grip on the world motion picture business. The Lockheed Model 9 Orion was a single-engine passenger aircraft built in 1931 for commercial airlines. It was the first airliner to have retractable landing gear and was faster than any military aircraft of that time. It was Lockheed Aircraft Corporation's last wooden monoplane design; 35 were built. Spirit of Fun was owned by Loew's friend, Hal Roach, whose Hollywood studio produced such classics as Laurel and Hardy, and Our Gang/Little Rascals.

Guests are always welcome!

NEW MEMBER

At the February Chapter meeting we had a new member sign up. Welcome aboard to Robert Zinser.

CHAPTER MEMBER FLIES WEST

On February 20th long time Chapter 1217 member Bernie Gross passed away. Bernie loved all things aviation and had a huge group of flying friends. In his previous life he had been a pilot for Braniff and later for US Air where he retired as a Boeing 737 Captain. Over the years Bernie had dozens of planes

and gliders. He even at one time was partners in a P-51 named Straw Boss in the Bay area. He always had a good story or joke to share. He is survived by his wife Gloria. He will be missed.

No date or time has been announced for his memorial..



Contestants Line Up for the STOL Drags at Copperstate

COPPERSTATE FLY-IN

Congratulations to the COPPERSTATE 2022
Judged Aircraft Award winners!

Best Amateur Built Light Sport

KitFox 7SS N1248
Owner: Terry Johnstone

Best Custom Metal

Van's RV-7 N717AZ
Owner: Darwin Barrie

Best Wood

Bellanca CruiseAir N6504N
Owner: Michael Gardner

Best Custom Composite

Long EZ N95WP
Owner: Wilhelm Percival

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Best Tube & Fabric

Piper PA 12 Supercruiser N78708
Owner: Tom Davies

Best Antique Piper

J5C/Navy HE1 N68490
Owner: CDR Michael Graves USN Ret

Best Classic

Globe Swift N80808
Owner: George Snyder

Best Contemporary

Beechcraft Debonair N6219V
Owner: Karl Johanson

Best Military

Harvard Mark 4 CF-WLO
Owner: Douglas Schmit



Modified Piper at the Start Line

Copperstate Winners Continued

Best Piper

Piper PA-30 N86624
Owner: Bob Cappiello

Best Cessna

Cessna 170B N2390D
Owner: James Norman

Reserve Grand Champion

Beechcraft Debonair N6219V
Owner: Karl Johanson

Grand Champion

Van's RV-7 N717AZ
Owner: Darwin Barrie

Thank you to ALL those that brought your beautiful works of art to display and be judged in this year's fly-in. All well-earned awards!

CACTUS FLY-IN

The 64th annual Cactus Fly-In was held at the Casa Grande Airport Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, 2022. It seems like this fly-in always has a weather issue lately. This year's

Friday arrivals were greeted by strong southwesterly winds gusting as high as 42 knots with blowing dust. The drenching that the valley got on Friday night somehow managed to skirt the Casa Grande area. Saturday had much lighter winds and turned out to be a beautiful day.

As might be expected attendance of fly-in aircraft was down, but this year they added a car show for the event. It was a big hit and everyone had a great time. The Grand Champion went to a Ryan PT-22 from northern California and the Headquarters Award went to a Stearman from Sonoma California.

LUKE DAYS ARE CANCELLED

Luke Days, which was scheduled for March 19-22, 2022, has once again been cancelled due to COVID concerns.

Concerns surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak led to the cancellation of Luke Days 2020. Luke AFB leaders decided against attempting to host an air show in 2021 to prioritize the safety of the community.



Scenes at the Finish Line



Homebuilt Twin Pusher



Two Radials and a Jet give Great Performance



Winners at Copperstate



**Pat McGarry's Hiller Helicopter that He Restored
on the Grass at Concourse in the Hills in Fountain Hills**



Sundown at Copperstate

Thunder Ads

KING KT-76 TRANSPONDER

with encoder \$200- Continental 0-200 crankcase
\$700- Curtis Clark 602-710-4494

ADS-B TRANSPONDER & MISC.

Appareo Stratus ESG 1090MHz ADS-B
transponder, Stratus 2i 978 MHz UAT w/WiFi,
RAM AV-74(-1) DME/Xsponder blade ant., rack
mount, pre wired cable harness, GPS WAAS ant.,
GPS triax cable, \$3,000⁰⁰, Goodyear 500-5 6 ply
tire, \$80, 4 Barry engine mounts 94510-41,
\$400⁰⁰, Dynon D-10A EFIS w/ remote compass &
temp probe, \$2,000⁰⁰, Charlie Spinelli, 206 678-
5678, Spinelllic@msn.com

CURTIS F11C-2 "GOSHAWK"

Built by John Pike. R-1340 (600 HP). Less than
120 hours TT since new. Becker com & txpdr,
Garmin ADS-B, 20 gal smoke tank, 102 gal fuel,
<https://CaptainBillyWalker.com> 480-773-2823

AIRCRAFT TOOLS

I have some aircraft tools that I acquired through a
friend. I would like to sell them. Dan Burdett
480-600-2865

SCHWEIZER 1-26C GLIDER

Complete restoration, new fabric and paint. New
skid, new tire and canopy. Has cg hook and factor
tip wheels. Trailer with new tires, lights and wheel
bearings. This glider is 100 % legal and ready to
tow to field and fly today. \$10,500.⁰⁰ Jerry Lane -
602-663-2432

MISC GOODIES

King KT-76 transponder, antenna and encoder
\$500-, **Continental 0-200 case** with data tag
and extras. \$500; RV-3 canopy brand new never
cut \$200, **Douglas DC-4 pedestal** with throttles
and controls. Perfect for your man cave \$100.
Curtis Clark 602-710-4494

LONGEZ AND SONEX

Two airplanes for sale at Thunder Ridge air park
(AZ28), a 180hp LongEz and a 120hp Sonex.
Contact Bertha Partin at bmpartin@gmail.com

THATCHER CX-4 PLANS & BUILDERS MANUAL

New, never used, donated to our Chapter.
Curtis 602-710-4494

COOL PLANES FOR SALE

Only flown by little old ladies to church on Sundays.
<http://captainbillywalker.com/aircraft-for-sale/aircraft-for-sale>

RV-4 PARTIALLY BUILT KIT

\$13,500 Lycoming 0-290-D2, kit for \$3,000 or
\$16,000 for both. Wanda 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 GDL82 ADS-B "Out" DATALINK

Designed to work with your existing
transponder. Slightly used. \$1,200⁰⁰.
Ken Roth 602-228-5000, RothDevCor@aol.com

SERVICES, ETC.

High-Perf Tailwheel & Akro Instruction

Pitts, Skybolts, all experimental tailwheel aircraft.
46-year's experience. Scottsdale Airport
Budd Davisson, Plus-5 Aviation, 602-738-2045,
www.airbum.com, buddairbum@cox.net

OIL COOLER REPAIR AND SALES

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

FLIGHT INSTRUCTION, ETC.

Airplane: Private: Commercial, Instrument, ATP,
ME; and Lighter than Air: Private and Commercial.
Fred Gorrell 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 520-466-4157

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

Send an E-mail to:
EAChapter1217@aol.comHow