



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

April 2022

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar. At the March meeting John Washington recruited Morgan Lowe to be our guest speaker and share with us the adventures of his Grandfather and his plane the "Spirit of Fun".

Morgan's grandfather, who was the president of MGM Studios, embarked upon a remarkable around-the-world adventure in a Lockheed Model 9 Orion named 'Spirit of Fun' which unfortunately came to an abrupt end near Victoria Falls in Africa. The presentation was very interesting and the flight was something not too many people had heard of. Morgan said he would like to expand the story he told us into a screenplay someday.

Some good news for those members that hang out at Deer Valley Airport. The City of Phoenix has finished cleaning out the old restaurant and a new tenant has come forward. Plans are for the doors to open in early 2023. The menu will have both Mexican food and the normal sandwiches, salads and burgers.

I have been lucky to have Saturdays off this month and have attended three fly-in breakfasts. It is a great way to get out and hang out with old friends and check out some really cool planes as well as blow the dust off your plane. The Coolidge events are closed down for the summer but the Casa Grande event is on Saturday April 30th.

See you around the aerodrome!

Curtis

APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

The April meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, April 21st beginning at 7 pm in the Thunderbird Room, Scottsdale Airport Terminal building. The address is 15000 North Airport Drive.

This month our guest speaker will be Lt Col Joe Goldsworthy from the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke Air Force Base. Col Goldsworthy is going to be presenting a Mid Air Collision Avoidance (MACA) briefing to the chapter. It is very important that pilots understand the airspace they fly in, hours of use, who to talk to, and to avoid having midairs with military aircraft.

Guests are always welcome!

MAYDAY-MAYDAY-MAYDAY

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN BBQ

Sunday, May 1, 1100-1400 will be the date & time for the annual Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 MAY DAY FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN. Deer Valley north side wash rack. Things get underway around 11 am with planes arriving and setup. There are plenty of transient aircraft parking spots right in front of the wash rack so bring your plane over to add some color to the event. At noon time we will be having an old-fashioned hangar cookout.

This year the Chapter will spring for the burgers, fixin's and drinks, you need to bring something to share that doesn't need to be cooked, heated or butchered. Examples are salads, desserts, and chips, salsa & dip. We don't need a lot, as we don't want a lot wasted. Everyone is welcome so bring your family and friends.

If you are driving, go to the north perimeter road and drive to the west entrance for the hangars. Signs will be posted, but call 602 710-4494 and we will come down and let you through the gate. Vehicles are encouraged to park in the marked car lot spaces near the hangars. Please DO NOT park in the airplane wash rack or in front of anyone's hangar, our goal is to keep the planes away from the cars.

All arriving pilots are requested to NOT to use the words **Mayday** when talking on the radio.



STEVE THOMPSON

AIRPLANE SALES

Chapter 1217 member Steve Thompson has started an aircraft sales company named Partner91. His goal is to work with both sellers and as your representative in buying an airplane. He can be reached at (833) VFR-1200 or at www.Partner91.com

DOC IN TOWN

The beautifully restored Boeing B-29 Superfortress "Doc" will be visiting Deer Valley Airport on Thursday May 26th, parking at Cutter Aviation. The plane will be available for ground and cockpit tours 9 am to 4:30 pm, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. The tours will run from 12 pm to 4:30 pm after morning flights both days. If you are interested in learning more or signing up for a ride go to www.B29Doc.com

ULTRA RARE PIPER PA-48

IN TUCSON

Pima Air and Space Museum is now home to the coolest Piper aircraft ever built. The restoration work on the Piper PA-48 is complete. The Enforcer was inspired by the legendary P-51 Mustang WW 2 fighter and designed for a close support/ground attack role. The US Air Force tested the concept twice first in 1971 and again beginning in 1983. Piper constructed two new airframes designated the PA-48 for the later test and they were the only two ever built.

You can now see it just north of hangar one where the aircraft still filling the Enforcer intended role, the A-10 Warthog, takes off and lands as pilots train just across the street at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

WORLDS LARGEST PLANE DESTROYED

The only An-225 Mriya was destroyed during the early stages of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

As everybody knows by now, the only An-225 Mriya (NATO reporting name: Cossack), the world's heaviest aircraft ever built, the one with the largest wingspan of any aircraft in operational service and the largest cargo volume in operational service, was destroyed at Antonov Airport, also called "Hostomel" or "Gostomel" Airport, located in a northwestern suburb of Kyiv, between Feb. 25 and 26, during the fighting between Russian and Ukrainian forces.

The rumors that the aircraft had been destroyed started spreading on social media and eventually found an official confirmation when two different Ukrainian Government accounts confirmed it. Despite the statements from the official accounts of the Government, Antonov Airlines, a Ukrainian cargo airline, a division of the Antonov aviation company, operating international charter services in the oversized-cargo market with a fleet that included also An-124 Ruslan cargos, had not confirmed the actual status of the giant aircraft, leaving hope that the An-225 might have been damaged but not totally destroyed in the attack. Some hope was also supported by satellite photos of the airfield, pictures that showed a damaged hangar but at least a chunk of the aircraft's tail still intact. But on Mar. 3, 2022, a Russian state TV visited the airport and their images, showing also the inside of the hangar, eventually provided the final proof that the An-225 had been almost completely destroyed.

THE LAST LEARJET

After 60 years in production and over 3,000 deliveries, the last Learjet was shipped by Bombardier to a customer of Northern Jet Management in Grand Rapids, Mich. Although production has ended, Bombardier said that parts and service would remain available to the 2,000 aircraft still in service.



An-225 Mriya before it was destroyed in the Russia/Ukraine War

**FUN FACTS ABOUT THE
2022 BUCKEYE AIR FAIR
& COPPERSTATE
FLY-IN**

30,000
Estimated attendance

421
General aviation pilots attended,
Record number 149 aircraft departed Saturday

32
Show planes entered the Fly-In
judging competition, 11 categories

6
Number of entertainers: Extreme Sky Diving,
Yak-110, Jon Melby, Brad Wursten, Vanguard
Squadron and Remote Jets

200,000+
People reached through social media and
Print ads (city pages, other pages total)

20
Boy Scouts received merit badges

1,650
Students attended Field Trip Friday

30
Number of competitors in inaugural
STOL Drag Races

BOEING NOW WORLD'S LARGEST PLANE

After the destruction of the An-225 it looks like Boeing now has the world's largest flying aircraft, the 777X or 777-900..

VICKERS WAVE FLYS

Long in development to incorporate a raft of distinctive ideas, the Vickers Wave took its first flight last month. Led by company namesake, Paul Vickers, the Wave has been a work in process for eleven years. All along Paul has been saying he would get it right on the first flight and it looks like he succeeded.

He also said that the methods he followed to get this far would speed production significantly. His intention was that when this airplane would take its first flight, it would not be some cobbled-together, proof-of-concept aircraft. The Wave that just flew should also go very directly into production without the need for another long round of engineering. Look at the image. This looks like a factory production model, not a crude prototype still rough around the edges.

While much of the aircraft is as it will be in final production, the interior and landing gear are purely functional, allowing us to refine the perfect these areas," explained Paul. Wave promises landing gear unlike any other

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VICKERS WAVE ON TAKEOFF

seaplane. “After a series of further test flights, we will be removing the undercarriage and commencing the much-anticipated water testing,” said Paul. “Once we have completed the water testing, we will be fitting our revolutionary undercarriage.”

As the Vickers team observed and as the video appears to show, Wave flew well as soon as it got airborne for the first time.

Along the way, Vickers has looked at different engines but the New Zealand group settled on the Rotax 915iS with its potent push of 141 horsepower. A turbo charger also help assure more thrust for a seaplane; getting off the water quicker is always desirable.

“The Rotax 915iS performed incredibly well,” Paul said. “It was smooth and very responsive, coupled with the MT-34 constant speed propeller that is controlled by the RS Flight Systems SLPC (single lever control).”



New silverware available soon



Beautiful Kitfox for sale in ThunderAds

Thunder Ads

Kitfox Model IV - 1050

S/N 1662. Grove gear, Rotax 912UL 80HP, 685 TT
Condition Inspection done March 2022, \$45,000 -
Bill Unternaehrer 602-931-8598

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) Xsponder blade ant., 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. \$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

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Pitts, Skybolts, all experimental tailwheel aircraft.
46-year's experience. Scottsdale Airport
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Chapter member owned. R & E Cooler Service
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Airplane: Private: Commercial, Instrument, ATP,
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Fred Gorrell 602-942-2255, 602-418-2045,
fgorrell2@cox.net

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ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-4157

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in the Thunderword?

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