



# The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

October 2022

Scottsdale, Arizona

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month Ernie Copeland and Craig Tompkins from the Scottsdale FAA Flight Standards District Office visited with us about the resources available to aircraft owners, builders and pilots. Last month's Chapter meeting was one of the first in-person meetings they had done in a couple of years due to COVID restrictions. The bottom line is that the FAA website [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov) has lots of great information available.

September is the month for the Stihl Reno National Air Race Championship. Chapter member Pat McGarry pushed his Pitts Special to second place in the Sport Biplane Gold race after a qualifying speed of just over 200 mph. Well done Pat!

The Chapter is on the hunt for someone that can take over the shirt and hat sales for a while. The ideal person is someone that regularly attends most meetings and doesn't mind staying after the meetings for a little while. If you are interested, drop me a note or mention it at the next meeting.

See you around the aerodrome!

*Curtis*

## OCTOBER CHAPTER MEETING

The October meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, October 20th beginning at 7 pm. The location is the Thunderbird Room in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal building. The address is 15000 North Airport Drive. This month's guest speaker will be Rick Bossardt.

Rick is the face behind SunCountry Cubs, a Certified Sales Center wholly dedicated to making the purchase of a Cub fun, exciting and rewarding. Rick speaks our language and shares a passion for flight. He is passionate

about backcountry aviation, and is eager to share the off-airport aviation experience with you.

Rick is a dual citizen in Switzerland and the United States, with 24 years of flying experience in both the United States and Europe.

Guests are always welcome.



**This Month's Guest Speaker**

## PAYSON AEROFAIR

On Saturday October 22, 2022, the Town of Payson will be having its annual Payson Aerofair. The event runs from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Admission is free. Family fun - Food trucks - Aircraft Displays - Simulators - Much more!

For more information go to [paysonaerofair.com](http://paysonaerofair.com). Proudly sponsored by the Town of Payson and other local businesses.

## FALCON FIELD OPEN HOUSE

Back by popular demand! The Falcon Field Airport Open House will return 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

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**Pat McGarry and Sam Sweet battle it out**



**Pat McGarry's Trophy**

Saturday, March 25, 2023. Mark your calendar and plan to join us for aircraft displays, fly-overs, kids' activities, aviation information booths, music, food trucks and more! Watch for details at <https://my.mesaaz.gov/3BFKiSq>.

### **THE PANTHER**

If you are interested in building an aluminum kit plane and the Vans and sonex planes don't do it for you, you might want to research the Panther.

Sport Performance Aviation Panther Kitplanes and Sport Performance Aviation LLC; Dan Weserman and his wife Rachel head up Sport Performance Aviation LLC. based in Green Cove Springs, Florida. The single seat aerobatic Panther is the first design of Dan, a long-time pilot and machinist who has developed parts for the popular Corvair engine conversion.

The Panther is offered as an ELSA kit featuring CAD-design parts that fit together well for a reasonably quick build. Skins are pre-punched

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### **Falcon Field always draws large crowds at it's Open House**

to allow quick match-drilling to ribs, and the use of pulled rivets speeds up and simplifies the construction time. The fuselage is a steel-tube frame in the forward section that carries loads from engine to wing to cockpit, and a monocoque aft fuselage that supports the tail surfaces. The wings and tail are traditionally constructed of aluminum skin and ribs. The wing's aspect ratio is higher than many sport planes, providing good performance and a low stall to meet LSA requirements (and a short-winged "sport" version is available for those that might want a little higher roll rate at the expense of low-speed performance). The seat back is adjustable before flight, and the rudder pedals can be moved for long or short legged pilots. It has folding wings, which allow it to fit in a roadable trailer. The cockpit bubble-type canopy opens to the right and is designed to self-detach if it unlatches in flight. A quickunlatch mechanism allows the pilot to bail out in an emergency. A BRS parachute is also optional equipment. The canopy is high enough to clear the head of most tall pilots. Fuel is provided in two leading-edge wing tanks, plumbed to the fuel selector in front of the pilot, and then fed to the engine with two parallel fuel pumps.

There are a number of engine choices including the Corvair, Jabiru 3300, Lycoming O-235, Lycoming O-320, Titan X340 Experimental Series or UL350ls.

Aerobatic performance may not be in the Extra class but is still very capable and easy to fly with no nasty habits. Maximum G-loading is +6/-4.4. Ground handling in the tailwheel configuration is very good. It offers X-country speed in excess of most amateur-built airplanes. Baggage space, limited to 25 lbs. is situated behind the pilot's seat. A two seat version is on the drawing board.

Specifications: Panther LSA Panther Sport. There are two numbers for the LSA and non LSA versions

Wingspan 23.5 ft 21.5 ft

Wing Area 93 sqft 85 sqft

Empty Weight 650-750 lbs 650-850 lbs

Gross Weight 1115 lbs 1150 lbs

Fuel 27 gal in wings 27 gal in wings

Top Speed 140-180 mph 160-200 mph

VNE 200 mph 220 mph

Max G +6/-4.4 G +6/-4.4 G

## RV-4 CRASH LESSON

NTSB says a position light socket may have caused a control jam, rapid descent and crash. Final report into Van's RV-4, N173CW, that occurred on June 9, 2020, near Safford Regional Airport, Arizona. The original tail position light had been removed to facilitate the

installation of a uAvionics tailbeacon ADS-B unit. The removed tail light was found jammed in the rear seat elevator controls. There was no stick boot on the rear control stick. There are several lessons that can be learned from this crash so it is never repeated.



### President Eisenhower's First Helicopter Ride

#### FIRST PRESIDENTIAL HELICOPTER

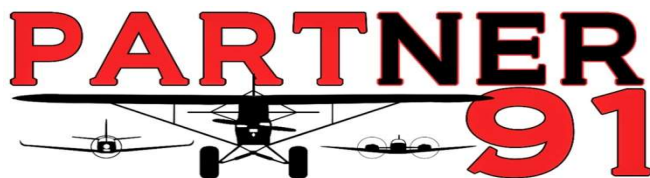
History was made on 12 July 1957 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower was the first United States president to fly in a helicopter. An U.S. Air Force H-13J-BF Sioux, serial number 57-2729 (c/n 1576), flown by Major Joseph E. Barrett, USAF, departed the White House lawn for Camp David, the presidential retreat in the Catoctin Mountains of Maryland. Also on board was a U.S. Secret Service special agent.

A second H-13J, 57-2728 (c/n 1575), followed, carrying President Eisenhower's personal physician and a second Secret Service agent. The helicopter was intended to rapidly move

the president from the White House to Andrews Air Force Base where his Lockheed VC-121E Constellation, Columbine III, would be standing by, or to other secure facilities in case of an emergency.

Major Barrett had been selected because of his extensive experience as a combat pilot. During World War II, he had flown the B-17 Flying Fortress four-engine heavy bomber. During the Korean War, Barrett had carried out a helicopter rescue 70 miles (113 kilometers) behind enemy lines, for which he was awarded the Silver Star.

# Thunder Ads



I help aircraft buyers and sellers!  
SteveThompson, Carefree, AZ (480)-980-9846  
<https://partner91.com/>

## 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 & MISC

**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

## ADS-B TRANSPONDER & MISC.

Appareo Stratus ESG ADS-B transponder, Stratus  
2i UAT w/WiFi, RAM AV-74(-1) Xsponder blade  
ant., pre-wired cable harness, GPS WAAS ant.,  
GPS triax cable, \$3,000<sup>00</sup>, Goodyear 500-5 6 ply  
tire, \$80, 4 Barry engine mounts 94510-41, \$400<sup>00</sup>,  
Dynon D-10A EFIS w/ remote compass & temp  
probe, \$2,000<sup>00</sup>, 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

## MISC GOODIES

## 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](mailto:bmpartin@gmail.com)

## THATCHER CX-4 PLANS & 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](mailto: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](mailto:delgiorgiopels@gmail.com)

## GARMIN GDL82 ADS-B "Out" DATALINK

Designed to work with your existing  
transponder. Slightly used. \$1,200<sup>00</sup>.  
Ken Roth 602-228-5000, [RothDevCor@aol.com](mailto:RothDevCor@aol.com)

## SERVICES, ETC.

## High-Perf Tailwheel & Akro Instruction

Pitts, Skybolts, all experimental tailwheel aircraft.  
46-year's experience. Scottsdale Airport,  
Budd Davison, Plus-5 Aviation, 602-738-2045,  
<http://www.airbum.com/www.airbum.com>,  
e-mail to: [buddairbum@cox.net](mailto:buddairbum@cox.net)

## OIL COOLER REPAIR AND SALES

Chapter member owned. R & E Cooler Service  
800-657-0977 [www.oilcoolersvs.com](http://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](mailto:fgorrell2@cox.net)

## HOMEBUILT AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION

ABDAR Gary Towner 928-535-3600

## ANNUALS, RESTORATIONS, FABRIC WORK

Eloy Airport Julie White 520-466-4157

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