



The ThunderWord

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217

March 2024

Scottsdale, Arizona

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Last month we had a Field Trip to Chapter member Scott Meyer's workshop to check out his Carbon Cub. Scott gave us a good talk on what goes in to building a Carbon Cub as well as an hour and dollar investment. Scott also had an inflatable spray booth that he had modified with a PVC pipe internal structure that was really interesting. Thanks Scott for inviting us over.

With the chapters new meeting room hopefully squared away for a while we have turned our attention to some other supplemental events. In addition to our meetings we have a Field Trip to Dillon Precision at Scottsdale Airport, the Fly Market at DVT and our annual Mayday BBQ at the DVT north side wash rack planned. It's a great way to get involved and meet some interesting people, maybe even drag a friend along..

This past month has had two big Arizona aviation events: the Buckeye AOPA Air Fair and the Cactus Fly-In. I elected not to go to Buckeye but the people that did had a great time and spoke highly about the vendors attendance and free food and drinks. I did fly the Wickham B down to the Cactus Fly-In and enjoyed perfect weather and a great turnout of cool planes. Besides sharing the planes story with lots of people who had never seen it I got to catch up with a lot of old friends and learn about new planes and projects.

See you around the aerodrome!

Curtis

MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

The March meeting of Thunderbird field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Wednesday March 20th. Join us at 6pm for dinner then the speaker starts at 7pm. The location is the

Barrio Restaurant in the Deer Valley Airport Terminal Building. We need everyone's support in having dinner and drinks before the meeting so can meet our \$250- tab so we get the meeting room fee waived.

This month's speaker is Mark Solper who is going to talk about Ultralites. He is someone I have been trying to get to talk for probably four years. Ultralights have come a long way and Mark is going to walk us through the evolution. Its very interesting that he worked in flight safety and risk mitigation for the airlines and the FAA his entire career. and now builds and flies an ultralight. When I first saw his plane takeoff at fifteen miles an hour I was amazed. Even if you don't have plans to build an ultralight it will be a good informative presentation, you might even learn something!

Mark Solper has long experience in ultralights and a variety of other aircraft types, he has served as past chairman of the Experimental Aircraft Association's Ultralight and Light-Sport Aircraft Council.

"Mark's background in ultralight flying, flight safety, and pilot training makes him an excellent choice to chair that valuable EAA member-based council," said Jack Pelton, EAA CEO and Chairman of the Board. Solper built on his childhood fascination with flight by earning his flight instructor certificate in Green Bay, Wisconsin. He later operated a flight school in Pulaski, Wisconsin, while also building a career that included experience with the FAA, line captain and training standards manager for a major airline, and chairman of the Air Line Pilots Association accident investigation board.

"Ultralight and light-sport aircraft flying offers a wonderfully fun, simple, and affordable way to be engaged in flight," Solper said. "Our council is dedicated to preserving that accessibility, as

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Mark Solper's Santos Dumont-inspired Skonkwerks 24M

well as working with EAA to enhance programs and activities that will enhance safety and fun for our members.”

Among the aircraft Solper currently flies include a Powrachute Sky Rascal, a Santos Dumont-inspired Skonkwerks 24M, and an Aerolite 103.

DILLON PRECISION FIELD TRIP

On the evening of Friday March 29th everyone is invited to an event years in the making. Dillon Precision Products at Scottsdale Airport is going to open its doors for us to visit their hangar and production facility. It's not often they roll open the blue hangar door and give the inside tour.

There will be a tour of the factory where they make some very interesting shooters supplies as well as produce their Minigun machine

guns for military and home defense use. Following that we will have a tour of the hangar and the really cool planes they operate. To top it off that will be followed by a BBQ and a showing of the movie: Cloud Dancer starring David Carradine. The movie was filmed at Scottsdale Airport and in the surrounding foothills.

Pike Kelly has been the guy behind setting this field trip up and deserves a big thanks. We will also be joined by members from the local IAC Chapter.

APRIL FLEA MARKET

We will be having an aviation flea market at Deer Valley on Saturday, April 13th before it gets too hot. We plan to sell lots of items that have been graciously donated to the chapter. You are also encouraged to bring a table to sell

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Last year's Flea Market with Chapter member Jerry Lane selling his treasures

off those excess treasures that are clogging up our hangars, garages and workshops.

The event will be taking place at hangar 57-01 in the shade from 10am-2pm. To participate bring a table and some change, everyone will

be responsible for their own stuff. Some help is defiantly needed to set up, price and ride herd on things. If you can help email eachapter1217@aol.com.



Last year's Flea Market Items for Sale

MAYDAY-MAYDAY

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN BBQ

Saturday, May 4th, 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. Watch for more information in the April ThunderWord and Chapter e-mails.

66th CACTUS FLY-IN

Saturday March 2nd was the date for this year's Fly-In at Casa Grande Airport. Typical waves of storms had left many folks wondering what weather was in store for the Fly-In. On Friday your pres flew down in the Wickham B and the weather was perfect, 75 degrees and calm winds. Early birds attended a great hangar happy hour hosted by TCB Aviation with and all the free drinks you could inhale.

Saturday was a almost perfect day for a Fly-In with 80 degree temps although it got a little breezy in the afternoon. A very informal BBQ and award presentation was held on Saturday afternoon. It was a great way to catch up with old friends and meet a few new ones.

Peoples choice went to the Consolidated PV-4Y-2 Super Privateer. The other award winners were Grand Champion to a Ryan PT-22 from Sonoma California and longest distance to a Ryan Navion who flew all the way from Rockford Illinois. It was a bit strange that all the award winners were built in San Diego.

It's great to see this event get back to the way it used to be. Be sure and put it on your calendar for next year for the first full weekend in March.



Award winning Navion at Cactus Fly-In



Chapter member Pat McGarry departing Cactus Fly-In in his Hiller Helicopter



Travel Air Biplane at the Cactus Fly-In



Inflatable Paint Booth Scott Meyers is using. Available on Amazon



Carbon Cub Wing before Covering



Carbon Cub wing with Fabric Covering



Scott Meyer, Brian Mitchell and Jack Pollack talking about Scott's Carbon Cub project

SPACESHIP FACTORY

Virgin Galactic is moving forward on their spaceship production facility at Williams Gateway Airport in the southeast valley. This location will do the majority of the construction and assembly of the Delta Spaceship Fleet. It's also where final ground checkouts will be performed before flight testing. There will be lots of interesting jobs available in the near future as production ramps up.

BLACKSTAR ORBITAL

Another futuristic aviation endeavor is the \$7 million spacecraft manufacturing and test facility from Blackstar Orbital that is being built at the Sierra Vista Municipal Airport in southern Arizona. The facility, which will generate 50 jobs, will be a landing site for reusable satellites and is expected to be fully operational by 2026.

COPPERSTATE FLY-IN RETURNS

Chapter 1217 member Steven Bass has stepped up to run the Copperstate Fly-In. The plan is to have it on November 1-3 at the Casa Grande Airport. Steve is looking for people to

get involved and would like to hear from you if you have a skill they could use.

PO Box 4037

Scottsdale, AZ 85261

Ph: 602-758-1489

website: www.copperstateflyin.com

Facebook: CopperstateFlyIn

email: copperstateflyin@icloud.com

MEMBER RV-6A FOR SALE

Now that Lyle Parker has finished his AirCam build, he is selling his RV-6A. It has only 200 hours on it since new. Sensenich prop 200 hours since new, and Lycoming O-320 has 200 hours since major overhaul. Beautiful paint and interior. For questions or photos, call 360-310-8215. Lyle Parker. Carefree.



Airplane mover for sale Terry Emig
520=705-8385

Thunder Ads



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

RV-6A FOR SALE

Only 200 hours since new Sensenich prop 200 hours TT, and Lycoming O-320 has 200 hours SMOH. Beautiful paint and interior. For questions or photos, call 360-310-8215. Lyle Parker in Carefree.

AIRPLANE MOVER FOR SALE

See picture above
Terry Emig 520=705-8385

KING KT-76 TRANSPONDER & MISC

Transponder, antenna and encoder \$500-, **Continental 0-200 case** with data tag and extras. \$500; 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, \$3,000⁰⁰, 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

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

COOL PLANES FOR SALE

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

THATCHER CX-4 PLANS & MANUAL

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

RV-4 PARTIALLY BUILT KIT

\$13,500 Lycoming O-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 delgiorqiopels@gmail.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, <http://www.airbum.com/www.airbum.com>, e-mail to: 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

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