

Illinois Valley Beacon

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Christmas Luncheon Our annual EAA Chapter 563 Christmas Luncheon was held December 5, 1998, at noon, at the Cater Inn in Peoria. Roger Theil from Washington, DC. was the guest speaker. Theil got started in aviation when he joined the Civil Air Patrol in 1965 as a cadet. He learned to fly in the "last taildragger class" of aircraft used by the CAP.



Mr. Theil is the author of both creative and factual works about antique aircraft, including an 8-page article featured in the July, 1992 issue of Vintage Airplane. He has given a forum at Oshkosh on these aircraft each year since 1984. Roger owns a 1941 Piper J-5 Cub, and a 1938 Ryan SCW which served on anti-sub patrol in Georgia.

November Meeting On Wednesday, November 11th, (Veteran's Day Remembrance in Canada) we met at 7:00 p.m. at our hangar at Mt. Hawley airport. We had not one, but two World War II Navy pilots tell us about their experiences before and during the war. Seventy-eight year old Bob Lott, the President of Farmer's State Bank in Elmwood, and his good friend, Bud Groenewold from Farmington, started out playing basketball against each other in high school. They ended up training at some of the same Navy facilities and flying some of the same models of aircraft.

Calendars Rumor has it that Morrie Caudill and Sam Sisk are working on a Chapter calendar that will depict aircraft belonging to some of our members. They will either be free or available for a small donation to cover the expenses of reproduction.

Santa's Workshop Thanks to Morrie Caudill and Phil Moldenhauer -- they were the primary elves who constructed from wood models of twin AeroCommanders for use as centerpieces. The models were painted blue with a Christmas theme for the Byerly Aviation Christmas dinner. Morrie even used his computer to design realistic looking window decals. Everyone was pleased with the results and the Chapter received a nice contribution in it's stocking.

In Remembrance Many of us were saddened by the unexpected passing of Dave Christianson. Dave was a member of EAA Chapter 410, in Sterling - Rock Falls. He was on the North Central EAA Fly-In Board and could frequently be found at the Whiteside County Airport, engaged in aviation related activities. Dave was struck down by a fatal heart attack in the prime of his life. We shall all miss him.

Pot Luck Planning President Sam Sisk is proposing that in January we have a combination Chapter Planning meeting and Pot Luck Dinner. Details will follow in next months newsletter.

NCEAA Director Needed We still need a third Chapter member to serve on the Board of Directors of the North Central EAA Old Fashioned Fly-In. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Sam Sisk, Ron Wright or Dennis Mellen.

Congress Goes Home... After weeks of wheeling and dealing, the White House and the Congress finally came to an agreement on what will and will not be in the federal budget for fiscal 1999. The resulting bill, a 2,285-page tome, includes few of the aviation-related proposals many had hoped for, save for a six-month AIP extension and funding of the FAA for another year. Omitted were a major rewrite of the FAA's underlying authorizing statute plus a measure addressing airline competition and service to smaller cities. These will be resurrected next year -- the widely-acclaimed "Year of Aviation" on Capitol Hill -- with at least the FAA reauthorization measure scheduled for action by March 31. From AVflash 4.43

...And Drops "ORDER TO LAND" Law... One other item of interest fell by the wayside in Congress's rush to get out of town: the ill-conceived "order to land" provision added into legislation reauthorizing the U.S. Coast Guard, a proposal to enhance the authority of law enforcement officers to order aircraft to land. Pilots would have been forced to pay heavy fines to reclaim aircraft, even when innocent. In the end, it and most other controversial items were thrown overboard as Congress adjourned. From AVflash 4.43

HOLD THE PICKLES, HOLD THE LETTUCE, NOISY CHOPPERS DON'T UPSET US... That \$100 hamburger just got easier to find, at least in the UK. But fixed-wing pilots need not apply, since this new stop is only open for helicopters. Instead, the Burger King Corporation and a franchisee have opened the world's first "Fly Thru" fast food restaurant. The pair have installed a

19-1/2-foot "Whopper Chopper" helipad in London, enabling helicopter pax and crew to pop in for a snack. From AVflash 4.43

CIRRUS CERTIFICATION... FAA Administrator Jane Garvey personally presented her agency's Type Certificate to Cirrus Design for its SR20 four-seat single during ceremonies at Palm Springs, Calif., on Friday, the first day of the annual AOPA Expo. "I'm very proud to accept the SR20 Type Certificate on behalf of the 200 employees at Cirrus," said Cirrus Design President Alan Klapmeier. Cirrus has more than 200 orders in hand for the \$168,800 base-price SR20. From AVflash 4.43

LANCAIR ALSO... The Lancair Columbia 300 also was type certificated two weeks ago. With this week's announcement, the Cirrus SR20 joins the Lancair Columbia 300 as the first all-new piston aircraft to be certificated in 15 years, and the first certificated offerings from kitplane companies. While both are four-seat singles of composite construction, the SR20 is more of an entry-level airplane, right down to its integral airframe parachute. The Columbia 300 is a higher-performance cross-country machine capable of 220-mph cruise. From AVflash 4.43

EAA LIKES WHAT IT SEES

Like a proud parent watching its offspring receive a diploma, the Experimental Aircraft Association applauded both Lancair and Cirrus for their respective achievements in obtaining FAA type certification. Both companies have been mainstays in the homebuilt community for years. "The Cirrus type certificate is a milestone for general aviation and the homebuilt community," said Tom Poberezny, EAA president. "Cirrus created its unique technology and innovation in kit aircraft, then moved on to include systems never incorporated into a production aircraft. The success of Cirrus is indicative of the vision and dedication within the homebuilt community. We congratulate them on their achievement." Poberezny had similar comments on the Lancair announcement two weeks ago. From AVflash 4.43

CESSNA TOO Not to be left out of the week's announcements, Cessna said October 18 that it obtained FAA type certification for two newly revised models of the venerable 206 utility single. Cessna's Single Engine General Manager Pat Boyarski said, "With certification complete, the Independence team is gearing up to begin customer deliveries in November." From AVflash 4.43

1000TH NEW SINGLE It's not quite the heady days of the late 1970s but it'll do. Cessna's Single Engine Facility said it has delivered its 1000th new single-engine airplane since production at the company's Independence, Kan. facility began in January, 1997. That's 1,000

deliveries in 22 months. From AVflash 4.43

MOONEY MAKES SOME MOVES... In a move that has many in the industry wondering what's going on in Kerrville, the Mooney Aircraft Company has quietly replaced widely respected Bill Kolloff, VP of Sales and Marketing. Kolloff came to Mooney from McDonnell Douglas back in January with a mandate to help turn the beleaguered manufacturer around. In June, Kolloff talked to Avweb about several scary months when making payroll was difficult and about the struggle to untangle the company from a web of unprofitable contracts. from: AVflash 4.44

...THINGS WERE LOOKING UP, THEN WHAT? By EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, things appeared to be looking up and plans for the new Mooney M20S Eagle were rolling along. Now, just scant weeks before the Eagle is to fly off to Mooney dealers, Kolloff is gone. Mooney has also closed its office in Colorado Springs to consolidate all sales and marketing functions at the factory. Rick Pitner, who was based at COS, is moving to Kerrville to take over Kolloff's position. Stay tuned. from: AVflash 4.44



FEDEX CREW TAKES A RAGGING:

A FedEx crew recently fought off a piece of fabric they didn't cotton to. Crewmembers kept their wits about them and landed their MD-11 safely in Honolulu, Hawaii, after a flight control malfunction that required full left aileron to prevent the plane from rolling over. A post-flight inspection showed three of the right wing spoilers were jammed in the full "up" position because of a rag stuck in a pulley. The MD-11 had recently undergone maintenance and had made nine flights with no problem. from: AVflash 4.44

YOUR FAA HIT PARADE:

Here are the latest squawks from the FAA straight to you. Piper retractables (except Malibus) are going to need repetitive inspections on main gear sidebrace studs, and the landing light support and seal on PA-28's need attention to prevent engine roughness or failure. A final rule has been issued on the revision to the PHX Class B airspace, ignoring almost everyone's expressed concerns. from: AVflash 4.44

A FINAL ROLL: Former Boeing test pilot A.M. "Tex" Johnston died Thursday after a four-year bout with Alzheimer's. Johnston is best known as the pilot who barrel-rolled a Boeing 707 in 1955. He was supposed to simply do a flyover for a group watching from the shore of Seattle's Lake Washington, but instead rolled the big bird right on around. from: AVflash 4.44

DISCOVERING COMMON GROUND:

It was a diverse crew aboard the space shuttle Discovery: men, women, oldsters, youngsters...but three of them had something in common. They're card-carrying members of the EAA. Commander Curt Brown has been to Oshkosh, and mission specialists Stephen Robinson and Scott Parazynski are EAA members, too. From AVflash 4.45

LAS CRUCES SEES THE LIGHT Some months ago, city leaders in Las Cruces, N.M., passed an ordinance requiring pilots to announce takeoffs and landings and broadcast their position in the pattern using procedures recommended in the AIM. Non-radio planes were required to fly the AIM-recommended traffic patterns. AOPA stepped in and told Las Cruces leaders that they were unlawfully preempting the FAA's authority. After much huffing and puffing, Las Cruces city leaders realized the error of their ways and backed down. The danger to pilots is not so much what Las Cruces did...it's what other cities might do if they were allowed to get away with it. From AVflash 4.47

THE EAA INITIATES A FIREFIGHT Among the least survivable accidents in aviation are those involving fire -- either in flight or on the ground. The EAA is working to give GA pilots more of a fighting chance. EAA officials last week hosted representatives from the FAA, the NTSB, and the GA industry to talk fire prevention and suppression. Polyurethane reticulated foam, currently used by the military, was a major focus of interest. The FAA plans next year to test a variety of the foams in GA aircraft fuel tanks to determine if they will prevent explosions upon accident impact. From AVflash 4.47

NOTED AVIATOR PERRY YOUNG DIES: The first black commercial pilot in the U.S. has died at the age of 79. Perry Young, Jr. defied the odds when he made his history-making flight on February 5, 1957, as the copilot of a New York Airways helicopter. Before then, airlines simply refused to hire black aviators. From AVflash 4.47

A SUPRA DUPER NEW GA VEHICLE? Toyota has made some mighty fine cars and trucks and now the company is giving aircraft building a whirl, as has long been rumored. According to a NASA report, Toyota Motor Sales is searching for 40 U.S. engineers to begin development of two aircraft for the GA market. The company is apparently planning to set up a stand-alone corporation over the next year in the United States to complete and certify two fixed-gear aircraft. From AVflash 4.48

THE BALLOON BATTLES BEGIN ANEW Bertrand Piccard and BA Concorde pilot Anthony Brown plan to lift off from the Swiss Alps between November 25 and the end of February in their latest attempt at an around-the-world balloon record. At least five other teams are planning similar attempts as Winter weather sets in. Briton Richard Branson and American Steve Fossett will be working together and expect to launch from Morocco by

the end of the year. Chicagoan Kevin Uliassi is planning to take off sometime in the next few months from a rock quarry north of Rockford, Ill. From AVflash 4.46

UP, UP, AND A WAIT: Within the next few weeks, the skies will be positively littered with balloon crews trying to become the first to grab the big one -- the record for first nonstop around-the-world balloon trek. In New Mexico, the "Spirit of Peace" is waiting for perfect weather. North of Chicago, Kevin Uliassi will try again. Steve Fossett and Richard Branson will be launching from the Swiss Alps, and Bertrand Piccard and Tony Brown will take off from Morocco. The Re/Max balloon team launching from near Alice Springs, Australia may be the most ambitious. They plan to float at 130,000 feet-near the outer edge of the earth's atmosphere -- to avoid weather and political pitfalls in the countries down below. From AVflash 4.48

Short Final...

++ A reader shared this with us to show that some airlines answer to an even higher authority than the FAA:

I recently took a domestic flight in Egypt on their national carrier, Egyptair. As I boarded the aging 737, I looked over the door at the frame where the airworthiness and registration certificates are normally found. Instead, the carrier had placed a copy of the Koran there. Made me feel much safer! From AVflash 4.43

++ From our "I think she's coming around" file: Being a relatively new pilot, I've always been very enthusiastic and felt that my wife may have been growing weary of all the "pilot talk." However, it was a gorgeous fall day, a perfect opportunity for the "\$100 hamburger," so at her suggestion, we headed out enjoying beautiful foliage scenery all the way.

As we dined at the restaurant, we were suddenly visited by a persistent fly that seemed intent on staying for the full meal. After swatting at it a time or two, I could no longer see it when my wife informed me: "Honey, I think he departed the pattern to the north." from: AVflash 4.44

++ From our "out of the mouths of babes" file... I was putting on my pilot uniform when my little girl asked my wife what I was doing. My wife replied that I was getting ready to go to work. Then my daughter asked why I had to go to work. My wife told her that it was the way I made money to provide for our family. My little girl thought about that for a moment and then asked: "Mommy, why is all the money at the airport?" From AVflash 4.45

++ Our intrepid glider pilot took off from a popular gliderport for a local soaring flight. After waiting a while to ensure soaring conditions were adequate for an extended flight, his ground crew (and spouse) called on the radio to say she was leaving the airport to run some errands. His reply indicated that he had to land soon to make a "phone call."

Among glider pilots, "phone call" is a polite term referring to the need to attend to physiological needs. These are usually handled in flight by emptying one's bladder into a plastic bag. So, the puzzled ground crew queried the pilot by radio: "Didn't you bring any baggies?"

"You don't understand," said the agitated voice from aloft. "I need to make a LONG DISTANCE phone call!" From AVflash 4.46

++ Graffito found in the crew lounge: "The only thing worse than a captain who never flew copilot is a copilot

who was once a captain." From AVflash 4.47

++ Controller to transitioning aircraft: "Do you have Miami's altimeter?" Student pilot (after long pause): "No sir, this one belongs to the flight school where I rented the plane." From AVflash 4.48

January 16 -- Springfield, Illinois Super Safety Seminar, IDOT, Harry R. Hanley Bldg. Contact: 217/524-5269.

February 27 -- Springfield, Illinois Light Plane / Ultralight Seminar, Illinois State Fairgrounds. Contact: 217/524-5269.

For Sale

1962 CESSNA SKYHAWK, 2000 TT AIR FRAME, 800 SMOH ENGINE, NDH, HANGARED, MARK 12B, KX 160, BETA 4000 TRANSPNDR, CAN BE SEEN AT 3MY, **\$20,000.00**, SEE **SAM SISK OR CALL 243-5729**

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Calendar of Events



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