

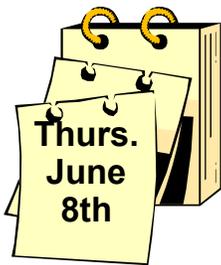
Illinois Valley Beacon

June 2000

Volume 7 Issue 5

Apology Your newsletter editor would like to take this space to express his regret that due to personal factors in his life, there was no newsletter for the month of May.

Breakfast Saturday, June 3rd at our hangar at Mt. Hawley Airport, beginning around 8:00 AM. See you there! Rumor has it that there may be a new item that looks suspiciously like the ham from our abortive May pot luck on the menu.



June Meeting Our next Chapter meeting will be on the **Second** Thursday of the month, **June 8th**, at 7:00 p.m. at our Chapter Hangar at Mt. Hawley Airport. **This will be a pot luck!** The Chapter will provide the meat and drink. Please bring a covered dish.

Big Bird Coming To

Town Not the big "Yellow" one, the big "Silver" one. The EAA's own B17 "Aluminum Overcast" will be in Peoria from July 7-10. The first flights will be on Saturday, July 8th. Flight times will be 8:00, 8:45, 9:30, 10:15, and 11:00 each day.

Here is your once-in-a-lifetime chance to fly in an authentic World War II B-17 Bomber. The EAA Aviation Foundation is offering historic flight experiences in its beautifully restored B-17G Flying Fortress "Aluminum Overcast." Take a trip back in time and feel the might of this magnificent flying machine, just as those young men did more than 50 years ago, but this time without the flak! Flight Experience Costs: \$300 for current EAA members and \$350 for non-EAA members. If you want to take a Flight Experience, please contact Dave Cook at 682-6074.

During the afternoons "Aluminum Overcast" will be parked on the Byerly ramp for viewing and walk thru tours. Volunteers will be needed to help with the crowds during the afternoons.



Chapter members have agreed to serve on following committees during the B-17 visit.

The Equipment Committee; Phil Moldenhaur is Chair, with

Dewey Fitch, Al Phipps, Dave Cook and Don Wollcott assisting. Publicity Committee; Al Phipps is Chair, with Morrie Caudill and Lou Carr assisting. The Historical Ride Committee; Dave Cook is Chair. If you would like to become involved in helping host the B-17 visit, please contact Bob Thompson, Morrie Caudill or any of the committee members listed.



April Program Our guest speaker was George O'Brien the newly past commander of the helicopter group based in Peoria, and now pilot for a commercial airline.

When O'Brien saw Jim Hannemann in the audience, he said that destroyed half of his material, since Hannemann knew it was not true. Both fly Blackhawk helicopters in the Guard.

O'Brien lived in Taylorville for his first 20 years. When he was 13 years old, George and his brother went to see the Thunderbirds. In school the next day he told his chemistry teacher he wanted to be a pilot. His teacher told him he needed to be a better student. O'Brien's grades went from C's and D's to A's.

At age 18 he went out to the airport one day and a jump

George O'Brien addressing the April Chapter meeting



club was jumping and he was asked if he wanted to learn how to skydive. That is how, on his very first flight, George never landed in the plane.

O'Brien learned how to fly in about 3 months, but he had no money. He joined the Air Force and became the Crew Chief on an F4 and returned to Springfield as a ground crewman. From there he went to Officers Candidate School, to Decatur to fly helicopters and eventually came to Peoria.

George instructed at Pekin and owned a Piper Tomahawk, in which he logged approximately 500 hours. When it came time to move up, he decided to fly to Maine to sell the Tomahawk and purchase a Mooney M20C.

It was a fairly warm day in November and ATC vectored him out over Lake Erie for spacing. He was at 6000 feet and it was 12 degrees centigrade when he ran into lake effect snow and rime ice. His stall-warning indicator was frozen over. He could tell that the stall characteristics of the aircraft had changed because of the ice. He was in a 300 foot per minute descent with a 40-knot tail wind. He could not turn back, there was no airport to the south and straight ahead in an easterly direction would be too great a distance to fly over open water in his current configuration.

At 2200 feet O'Brien punched the nearest button on his GPS and found that the closest airport was 6 miles away in Canada. He turned to that heading and while descending through 1300 feet and he was still 4 miles away and well below the minimum descent altitude. George called the airport on the Unicom and a fellow read an NDB approach back to him. O'Brien managed to fly an abbreviated, straight in version of the approach. After he landed, two other US aircraft landed at the same Canadian airport that day, while another didn't make it and was lost. Because of the paper work, he found that it was a whole lot easier to get into Canada than to get out.

When learning to fly helicopters, George thought the transition would be easy. While flying dual with the instructor, the collective and pedals were rock solid. Then the Warrant Officer said "you have it" and he was all over. He would have needed 4 acres. Once again the Warrant Officer took over and everything was rock solid again.

At 36 O'Brien decided to go to the airlines. He sold his Mooney M20C and went to Dallas to fly for American Eagle. He has been flying ATR 42 and 72 aircraft since last September. He works in Dallas, lives in Peoria and drills with the Guard in Peoria. Recently George bid on a regional jet and got it. In a few weeks he will begin checkout training on the jets.

Young Eagle Flight Credits Needed

Last year Chapter 563 flew 93 Young Eagles.

If you flew Young Eagles last year you should have received an accounting from EAA in Oshkosh of the



Chapter 563 is sponsoring Josh Herget to the EAA Air Academy

number of flights. Each Young Eagle flown nets you a credit worth \$1. The only place it can be spent is to pay to halve the cost of sending a young person interested in aviation to the EAA Air Academy or the Aviation Advanced Leadership Camp being held concurrently with Oshkosh AirVenture 2000.

At our May Chapter meeting we voted to sponsor Josh Herget to the EAA Air Academy or Aviation Advanced Leadership Camp for 50% of his tuition. Josh is a fine young man who will be attending Dubuque University to study aviation in the fall. Either the Academy or Camp costs approximately \$900. If we can collect all the credits for the Young Eagles that the Chapter flew last year, our cost will only be about \$350.

Remember, Young Eagle Credits have no value except for this program and they expire at the end of August. Please mail your Young Eagle Credits to Treasurer Morrie Caudill now!

Lucky Lindy Colleen Martin, a teacher at Wilder-Waite School and her husband Jim, who is associated with the local model airplane club, addressed the Chapter at our May meeting with a special school project. The students at Wilder-Waite are going to build a 70% mock up of the Spirit of St. Louis in their school gym. Then there will be a program, during which the students

Young Eagles awaiting flights





Spirit of St. Louis

will get some idea as to the length and danger associated with Lindberg's first nonstop flight across the Atlantic.

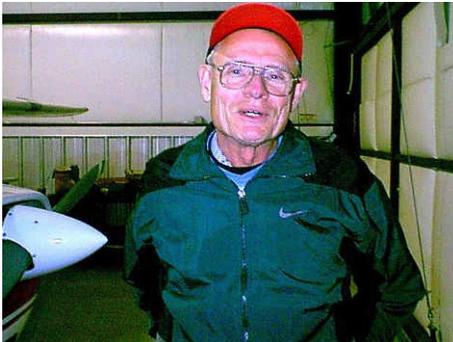
The Chapter was impressed with the proposal and has agreed to provide hangar space and labor to help build the mock up of the Spirit of St. Louis.

Congratulations to Chapter member Bruce Chien for the cover story in Peoria Medicine 2000 on his Lifeline flights.

Welcome Back! There was a warm hello from everyone at the April Chapter meeting for Brian Briggerman, who was back visiting from Arizona. Brian seems to have adapted well to his new environment in the South West, but you could see that he was pleased to be back visiting among all his Central Illinois friends.

Oz Test Flies his RV-6A

On Wednesday, May 10th, Beckham was doing some high-speed taxi tests on N747RV. The aircraft had recently been inspected and an airworthiness certificate was issued.



Brian

While taxiing at a high speed the craft became airborne and Ozzie decided to go for it. Beckham climbed to around 2500 feet and stayed aloft for about 30 minutes before returning to the airport.

FAA User Fees

From: "James Pratt" <pratt@provide.net>
Newsgroups: rec.aviation.homebuilt
Sent: Saturday, May 20, 2000 8:15 AM
Subject: FAA Proposes "hidden user fees"

Hello:

I just wanted to check in and share the following info with you, and get your input. As you may have heard, FAA Management in DC has decided that FAA manufacturing

inspectors will no longer issue airworthiness certificates as part of their job description. You can read more about it on the FAA Manufacturing Inspector Union Website, <http://aircraftcert.org/new.htm>. The proposal is contained in FAA Management's offer to our union.

Management wants the inspectors to agree to a proposal that terminates us issuing airworthiness inspections as part of our job function, and make amateur-builders (and anyone else, for that matter) rely exclusively on Designated Airworthiness Representatives (DAR's) for airworthiness certification.

In some parts of the country there are sufficient DAR's around. In other parts of the country there simply isn't anyone who meets FAA qualifications to become a DAR. For example, in some states there ARE NO DAR's. Which would mean anyone wanting an airworthiness certificate would have to pay the transportation fee to fly in a DAR when they found one.

As a union we don't think you should be required to do that, and we want to continue inspection of aircraft as part of our job.

So, the question is: What do you all think? Are you sufficiently concerned that you would support us by a letter writing campaign, contacting FAA officials, congress critters, etc., if we dig in our heels on this matter? We cannot do it alone but must gauge our support here.

Jim Pratt

<http://aircraftcert.org>

<http://provide.net/~pratt/ambuilt/faqhmbt.htm>

Programs for Chapter Members scheduled for AirVenture 2000

Fri. July 28 - **Chapter Newsletter Editor's Workshop** - 8:00am to 10:00am - Vette Theater, Come meet the Editors of all EAA Publications, Scott Spangler and Mike DiFrisco (both former EAA Chapter Newsletter Editors).

Fri. July 28 - **Chapter Web Editor's Workshop** - 10:30am to 12:30am - Vette Theater, Come learn how to create a Chapter Web Site and/or how to make your existing Chapter Web Site more effective.

Sat. July 29 - **Chapter Leaders Breakfast** - 8:00am to 10:30am - EAA Nature Center; Join us for a morning of interacting with other Chapter Leaders from all over the world, meet EAA Staff Members, and enjoy a great Breakfast (FREE)! Please RSVP by sending your name, Chapter Number, and EAA Number to Troy Toelle, 800-236-4800, ext. 4876, fax at (920) 426-6560, or e-mail to chapters@eaa.org.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

Flight Testing
Techniques Course -





Young Eagle Lana Abel in Bill Engel's Decathlon

Ford Tri-Motor Pilot Ground Schools (both pilots and non-pilots are invited to participate) have been scheduled for the first time in 2000. Classes will run May 12-14, October 20-22 and October 27-29. Cost is \$450 for EAA Members and \$550 for non-EAA Members, which includes a flight in the Tri-Motor, instruction, materials, meals and lodging. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for information and to make reservations.

Lancair Workshop - Septembr 14th-17th

Will present the necessary instruction to build the Lancair aircraft. All problem areas and specific techniques used for assembly of the Lancair will be presented. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more info. or to make a reservation.

Engine Workshop - October 2nd-6th

Basic course in engine disassembly, cleaning, evaluation and reassembly. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more information or to make a reservation.

Building the RV Series of Aircraft - October 9th-13th

Join well known and skilled RV builder, Alex Sloan for this week-long session on building the Van's RV series. If you're in the process of or thinking about building the Van's RV, you'll want to attend this session. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more information or to make a reservation.

HOMEBUILT Spruce & Fabric. 65HP Continental w/metal prop. Single seat. GC. Bloomington area. \$3750. For information contact Charlie Murphy: truckhandler1@hotmail.com 309/473-2558 Bloomington.

July 23rd-25th

A special Flight Testing Techniques course with Ed Kolano (test pilot and former flight instructor at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School) is set for Oshkosh for July 23rd-25th. This is a specialized classroom only course designed to familiarize homebuilders and flight advisors with flight testing techniques and procedures. The goal of the course is to increase the safety record for amateur-built aircraft resulting from more thorough and professional testing. Registration Fee is \$450 for EAA Members and \$500 for Non-EAA Members. Fee includes instruction, materials, meals and lodging. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229, for more information or to make a reservation.

B-17 Pilot Ground Schools - August 25th-27th and November 3rd-5th

B-17 Pilot Ground Schools (and you don't even need to have a pilot's license to attend) are set for 2000. April 14th -16th, Aug. 25th-27th and Nov. 3rd-5th. Cost \$750 for Non-EAA Members, \$650 for EAA Members and price includes meals, materials, lodging and flight in "Aluminum Overcast." Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for information or reservations.

Ford Tri-Motor Pilot Ground Schools - October 20th-22nd and October 27th-29th

One unused set of plans for a Stewart Headwind and an aircooled VW engine with many extra parts. Call Phil Hall, 319/886-6825

One Sterba prop, 74/60 fits Lyc. hub, less than 1 hr. air

Young Eagle James Bradford and Andy Metzka, next to Andy's Cessna 120



time. Call Bob Schrieber, 319/264-5753

One set of RV-6/6A plans with manuals and some newsletters. Call Merrill Knouse, 319/732-2861

Pulsar with 582 Rotax. Call Jim Hughes, 319/263-0684

Fisher Classic Bi-plane, 532 Rotax, duel CDI, electric start,



Duel controls, easy gentle flyer, \$14,500 O.B.O. Call Don Sayers at 309-923-5871 or donruth@bwsys.net

GARMIN 195 GPS—NEW IN BOX, used 2 months



\$900.00 O.B.O. Jim Cashen at 309-432-2112

1AIM Battery Powered CO Dectector – New \$44.95 plus \$3.20 for Priority Mail. Ph. 518-731-6800.

Calendar

June 2 - 3 **National Biplane Association Convention and Exposition** – Bartlesville, OK

June 4 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Harttenbauer Airport

June 4 **Fly-In Breakfast** – Washington, IA

June 10 - 11 **FLY IOWA 2000** – Waterloo, IA

June 11 **Annual Drive-In / Fly-In** Whiteside County Airport Contact: Bill Havener—815-626-0910

June 11 **Fly-In Breakfast**, Chapter 410, Whiteside County Airport – Sterling/Rock Falls, IL

June 17 **Walker Field** pot luck, West Liberty, IA.

June 17-18 **Gateway Area Ultralight Assoc. Father's Day Fly-In** Pierron, IL Contact: Kieth Smith—314-776-4790

June 17-18 The **Galesburg**, IL FBO is having an open house with refreshments

June 24-25 **Dac-Pac Pterodactyl Fly-In** Kankakee, IL Frank Beagle--815-932-9822

June 25 **Macomb Heritage Days** is having a pancake breakfast from 6 am to 12:30 pm \$4 but free to the pilot

June 18 **Father's Day Fly-in Breakfast** Marshal Co. Airport Lacon, IL

July 2 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Harttenbauer Airport

July 4 **Chapter 682 Fly-In Breakfast** – Mt. Morris, IL

July 9 **Chapter 111 Young Eagles Day**, Walker Field - West Liberty, IA

July 14 - 16 **Quad Cities Air Show**, Municipal Airport – Davenport, IA.

July 18-23 **38th Annual PRA Convention** Mentone, IN Contact: PRA—219-353-7227

July 22 **Chapter 1269 Fly-In Steak and Pork Chop Supper** – Oelwein, IA

July 26-Aug. 1 **Oshkosh Air Adventure EAA Conv.** Oshkosh, WI Contact: EAA—414-426-4800

July 28-30 **National Pietenpol Convention** – Brodhead, WI

Aug. 6 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Harttenbauer Airport

Aug. 13 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Grandpa's Farm Mendota, IL

Aug. 20 **Fly-In Breakfast**, Chapter 368, Monona, IA

Aug. 20 **SERTOMA Fly-In Breakfast**, Iowa City Municipal Airport- Iowa City, Iowa

Aug. 25-27 **ASC Midwest Regional Fly-In** Tommy Georges Airpark Edinburg, IL Contact: 217-623-5772

Aug. 31 – Sept. 4 **Antique Airplane Assoc. Convention**,



Antique Airfield-Blakesburg, IA

Sept. 1-4 **ASC Nationals at Kimo** Brooks Field Marshall, MI Contact: ASC 616-781-4021

Sept. 3 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Harttenbauer Airport

Sept. 8 - 10 **Midwest Antique Airplane Assoc. Grass Roots Fly-In** – Brodhead, WI

Sept. 9 **Heart of Illinois Ultralight Fly-In** Logan Co. Airport Lincoln, IL Contact: Tom Jensen—309-394-2539 murphyrebel@bwsys.net

Sept. 9 **Stearman Fly-In Breakfast** at Canton Ingersoll Airport **IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC** for breakfast. [Visit only](#)

E-Mail All members with e-mail addresses please notify Chapter newsletter editor Dennis Mellen of your address at dennis.mellen@mcleodusa.net.

Bubble Bath

The two planes in the pictures are reported to be Beech Hawkers. If you look closely at the first picture you can actually see two nozzles (behind the rudder and the other to the right of the ailerons) dumping fire retardant foam into the hangar. Reportedly these pictures were taken at the Learjet facility in Kansas where a fire suppression system malfunctioned. The images were apparently posted to <http://www.avweb.com/articles/foam/index.html> and started making the internet rounds.



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