



Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, August 19, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden, CT

August 2012

Letter from the President

With the arrival of August, for me it is sometimes akin to starting the second half of an athletic contest. The opening half has been neatly punctuated by the July break and, for those fortunate to do so, the excursion to the latest edition of AirVenture. I look forward to hearing the stories of what transpired at Oshkosh this year. But with the opening of the "second half," we also look ahead to what's coming up.

It's now official...the Eagle Flights program for adults is off and running. The first official flight occurred last July 24th at AirVenture with EAA President Rod Hightower giving would-be aviatrix Dianne Thornton a ride in his T-6 Texan. Essentially using the same format as the very successful Young Eagles program, pilot guidelines, registration forms, and other promotional material are now available and ready for chapter use. As soon as we receive our package of the aforementioned items (they've already been ordered), we'll get started with Eagle Flights of our own. I'll have more to say about this exciting program at this month's meeting.

I recently received an e-mail from the good folks at the Recreational Aviation Foundation (the "RAF") requesting some continuing help. You may recall that the RAF is dedicated to preserving, maintaining and creating recreational and backcountry airstrips for public use. The Lightspeed Aviation Foundation, the headset folks, sponsor \$10K grants to be used towards important aviation-related causes. The RAF has been fortunate to be a past recipient of a grant and, with the encouragement of Lightspeed, has applied again this year. And the RAF has once again been chosen as one of the 20 finalists to receive a grant. To seal the deal for the RAF, it will take votes of support from the aviation community at large. To do so is very easy. Go online and load the following into your browser: <http://www.lightspeedaviationfoundation.org/content.cfm/>

Voting/Get-to-know-the-2012-finalists/Recreational-Aviation-Foundation. Once there, hit the Vote Now button. That's all there is to it and it will take less than a minute of your time to register your support for the critical work being accomplished by the RAF. Please do so.

So what else is coming up? A full second half: the fall Young Eagles rally in October, Eagle Flights, perhaps Boy Scout Merit Badge training, informative monthly meeting seminars, our annual Holiday banquet, and don't forget the Chapter picnic coming up on September 8th at MMK airport. Stay tuned for more details. See you at the next meeting.

Stay safe,
—Bob



To celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Piper Cub, nearly 200 of them flew into AirVenture creating a sea of yellow. Barry David photo.

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Fuel in the tanks is limited. Gravity is forever.

Aviation is not so much a profession as it is a disease.

AirVenture Numbers

Attendance: 508,000

"We are pleased that attendance has topped one-half million again. That is a tremendous total considering the intensely hot weather, storms, and struggles in the overall economy. The aviation community knows that Oshkosh is the place to be to find out what's new, and actually buy new equipment, components, and aircraft." —Rod Hightower

Total aircraft: More than 10,000 aircraft arriving at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh and other airports in east-central Wisconsin.

Total showplanes: 2,489 including 978 homebuilt aircraft, 907 vintage airplanes, 336 warbirds, 105 ultralights, 97 seaplanes, 35 aerobatic aircraft and 31 rotorcraft.

Commercial exhibitors: 802

International visitors registered: 2,078 visitors registered from 71 nations, with Canada (479 visitors), Australia (286), and Brazil (216) the top three nations. (NOTE: This total includes only non-U.S. visitors who register at the International Visitors Tent, so the actual international contingent is undoubtedly larger.)

Media: 897 media representatives on-site, from five continents.

What's ahead for 2013?

"Expect bigger and better things for 2013 - certainly continuous improvements in what we call the visitor experience. Stay tuned for many announcements about the 2013 fly-in and the history-making surprises that can be found only at Oshkosh."

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2013: July 29-August 4



WomenVenture (in red) and WomenSoar (a youth education program, in green and blue) came together on Saturday at AirVenture for a photo that has, since 2008, become an annual tradition.

Gone West

We're sad to report that Ev Cassagneres passed away on Sunday, July 1st. Although he was not a member of our Chapter (at least in recent history), he was a strong supporter of what we do and has helped out over the years. Further, he was a very vocal ambassador of MMK airport...indeed, one of the good guys.

Ev loved to talk about flying, especially the old, vintage machines. Many, I'm sure, are aware of his extensive knowledge about Ryan airplanes and his authorship in that regard. In fact, because of that activity, he had the occasion to interview Charles Lindbergh several times regarding the Ryan. He was a veteran of the Korean War.

—Bob Spaulding

The deadline for submission of materials for the next newsletter is September 8, 2012.



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