



Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, January 18, 2004, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden

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203-467-4826

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203-393-3735

Secretary

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203-634-4457

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203-874-5247

Happy New Year!

Letter from the President

January, 2004

Those of you who did not join us at our annual holiday banquet missed a fine time. I have received many compliments concerning the selection of the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin, CT. I used the occasion to highlight the accomplishments of our chapter during 2003.

2003 was an outstanding year!

Major highlights of our chapter status and activities for 2003 include:

- 75 active members
- 35 project aircraft
- 29 flying aircraft
- 10 monthly meetings with seminars
- Excellent monthly newsletter
- Total Young Eagles flown reached 1022
- Annual Picnic
 - Firefighter Orientation Day
 - Model Airplane Contest
- Pinch Hitter Course
- Airport Improvement Projects:
 - New Compass Calibration Pad
 - Tetrahedron Refurbishing
 - Windsock Area Refurbishing
- Holiday Banquet

Now we are about to embark on a new year. Our chapter will truly be challenged to produce similar results for 2004. Our January meeting will be focused towards the direction of our chapter for the coming year. I would like to ask each of you to brainstorm some new and interesting activities for consideration by the membership. I strongly encourage you to bring your ideas and suggestions to our next meeting.

Your opinions and ideas will greatly assist the officers to focus upon those areas of primary interest to our group. All suggestions will receive consideration. This is a very important meeting and I hope to see the vast majority of you there.

One idea that appears to have strong member support is to invite all past Young Eagles participants to join us for a



The crowd gathers for the Holiday festivities at the Hawthorne Inn in Berlin, Connecticut

picnic at MMK airport. This will allow us to revisit with many of these youngsters and parents. It will also allow us to assess whether our Young Eagles efforts have produced any future pilots. This would most certainly be a major undertaking and will require support from many of you.

Your 2004 officers are ready, willing and able to step up to the challenge.

See you on January 18th.

—Jim Simmons

January seminar: Dave Pepe and Jim Simmons discuss getting ready for your airworthiness inspection and what happens during those flight test hours. Don't miss it!

January, 2004

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First AB-DAR Course Ready To Fly

While most of the aviation world was busy celebrating the centennial of powered flight December 16-18, several EAA staff members and others were focused on fine-tuning the FAA's new amateur-built aircraft designated airworthiness representative (AB-DAR) initial qualification course at the FAA Academy in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Representing EAA were staffers Earl Lawrence, vice president of industry and regulatory affairs; Randy Hansen, government programs director; Joe Norris, senior aviation information specialist; and EAA Homebuilt Aircraft Council member Joe Gauthier. Also participating in the course's first run-through were several FAA inspectors and instructors from the FAA and Transportation Safety Institute (TSI). The assembled group determined that with minor adjustments, the course is ready for the initial class of 18 AB-DAR appointees scheduled to attend on January 27-29.

Norris and Gauthier, both appointed DARs, received full AB-DAR qualification credit for attending this prototype course, and upon approval of their managing FAA Manufacturing Inspection District Office (MIDO), both can now inspect and certify homebuilt aircraft.

"It's a new course and this dry run was designed to see what changes we may or may not have to make for the first course," said Jeff Jennings, TSI Air Safety Investigator/Instructor and course manager. "It's like testing a new aircraft."

The first two days are devoted to the classroom: Day 1 includes an in-depth review of FAA Regulations, Orders, Advisory Circulars, Policy Letters & Memos, history of operating limitations, FSDO/MIDO procedures and DAR operating policies/procedures. Day 2 provides an overall review of amateur-built aircraft construction methods that highlight the many different types of aircraft designs and construction procedures AB-DARs may face when inspecting aircraft.

Day 3 amounts to a final exam—an actual hands-on inspection of amateur-built aircraft during which students will have to recognize definitive flaws in the aircraft and/or paperwork then, as a group, determine whether to issue a special airworthiness certificate, order on-the-spot corrections, or deny issuance of the certificate. Inspection aircraft were donated by EAA for the course and include a 1998 Lancair Tigress; a 1979 Smyth/Pieper Sidewinder; and a 1965 Welsh Rabbit (Model A).

Once a student successfully completes the course, TSI and the FAA will issue a graduation certificate, which will be presented to the AB-DAR's managing MIDO. When approved, the AB-DAR will be authorized to perform aircraft inspections and thus begin to help alleviate the backlog of inspection requests from homebuilders.

AB-DAR candidates scheduled to attend the first course include: Frank Baldwin, Mike DeHate, Dave Eby, Lowell Farrand, Bob Hayos, Ron Jones, Bill Leftwich, Bob Loose, Tim Mahoney, John McCarthy, Bill Meserole, Jim Miller, Ernest Patterson, Alan Purdy, Bill Riggin, Gary Sobek, James Thomas, and Dave Van Denburg. Also attending the course will be two FAA inspectors from the Alaska Region.

As newly authorized AB-DARs join the cadre of existing FAA DARs with the authority to inspect and certify amateur-built aircraft, EAA recognizes all past and present DARs who have been and will continue to be the true backbone of the amateur-built aircraft industry—the fastest growing segment of the general/recreational aviation fleet. Over 25,000 amateur-built aircraft are now on the FAA aircraft registry, and their overall flight safety record has dramatically improved over the past 20 years. This improvement is due, in large part, to the efforts of those dedicated FAA DARs who strive to ensure the overall safety of the amateur-built aircraft they inspect and certify.

—EAA

Chapter Finances

Dues: It's time to do your bit. Yes, we're beginning another membership year. Please renew your membership and keep our chapter going strong. Dues are \$15 annually, payable in January. You can fill out the form on the back of this newsletter and mail your dues in or pay Barb Johnson at the next meeting. Don't delay!

Golf Shirts: The polo shirts with the EAA Chapter 27 logo on them are in and available for immediate sale. If you ordered one you can pick it up at the next meeting or by contacting Dave Pepe. If you didn't order one, we have extras in all sizes. Show the world you're proud to be an Chapter 27 member. The shirts are white with the logo in blue and cost \$22 each.

EAA Calendars: We have copies of the 2004 EAA "World of Flight" calendars available. It's a spectacular calendar featuring some amazing aerial photography. They're only \$10 each and are available at the meeting or from Barb Johnson.

Congratulations To The Carlson Family

At 6:23 PM on December 31, 2003, Bob and Louise Carlson became the proud grandparents of an 8 pound, 13 ounce baby boy named Robert Nicholas Carlson. Their son Robby is in the USMC and is a pilot stationed in Okinawa. The mother, Sonya, and baby are doing fine. Note: Great timing - a tax deduction for the whole year!

Bob is the President and Airport manager at MMK. Bob and Louise are enroute to Okinawa for a two week visit with their new grandchild.

Also congratulations to "Big Cheese" (Robert Carlson Sr.) upon becoming a great grandpa again.

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2003

The last formal meeting of the year 2003 was opened by our newly-re-elected President Jim Simmons. All officers were present: Steve Socolosky, Barbara Johnson and Dave Pepe.

General attendance: Ted Brainerd, Bob Brown, Herb Bullock, Bob Burk, Chas. Enz, Joan Howell, Bill Jagoda, Chris Kohler, Maury Libson, Chris O'Connor, Jim Pepe, Rob Rouse, Chan Schiller, Mark Scott, Bob Seeman, Sheila Seeman, Fran Uliano, Mike Okrent, Rick Beebe, Bob Upson, Steve Fraas, Max Lopez (new vice-president), Mike Zemsta, Vern Carlson, Jude Steele, John Boyce, Stan Solecki, Jim Maher, and others who didn't sign the attendance sheet.

Visitors: Pat Gallagher and Mark Weinstein from Long Island, Billy Bestner, Richard Merrill.

Treasurer's Report: Barb Johnson reports a starting balance of \$2945.99, with a resultant \$2668.89 after income and expenses.

Young Eagles: Fran Uliano, at this time, relates that 110 young eagles have been flown this year, and that 1011 have been flown in all. This number will increase at the next meeting, because I know that more have been flown in the intervening time, but have no number. This program will continue in some form now that the 1,000,000 goal has been realized.

Chapter Library: Chan Schiller has made a donation of books and a bookcase. Continued contributions are solicited for this project. Mike Okrent is the guy to see in this regard.

Technical Counselor's Report: Bob Burk looked at Max Lopez' RV-7A at Tweed Airport. Jim Simmons has flown off the 25 hours on his GP-4 and took Betty for a flight. Dave Pepe (me) has flown 15 out of 40 hours (it's the weather, not a lack of trying, and I work full time). Fred Dube's Thorp was first flown by (who else) Joe Gauthier in December. I watched it fly.

Education Center: Jude Steele relates that most buildings will be torn down in the airport renovation project. Jude continues to monitor the progress of the Aviation commission, and will keep us informed.

Website and Newsletter: Input is sought by Rick Beebe for these two communication venues. If you have personal or project info to share, please do so, either in word or picture format.

Golf Shirts w/Chapter 27 Logos: Shirts are in and I will bring to next meeting. I have the list of what you requested, so you can pick up and pay for them then. The shirts are \$22 each.

Election of 2004 Officers: The results of the election are in, and the slate is the same as last year with the exception that Max Lopez will be the Vice President, replacing Steve Socolosky. Thanks Steve!

50/50 Raffle was held, but I don't have the winner's name. Remember that the winner is requested to submit a personal profile to appear in the newsletter. Bob Burk did the raffle ticket sales.



February 15, 2004

Alton Bay Ice Fly-in

Come and land on the ice at beautiful Alton Bay N.H. (1B8)

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Enjoy the afternoon at Alton's Winter Festival

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Aircraft parking is available

Sponsored by

Aviation Association of New Hampshire

AANH

For updated ice conditions, a couple of days before the event, log on to AANH web page

www.aanh.org

The Monthly Seminar was given by Gary Newsted, who flew in from New Hampshire in his Subaru-powered RV-9A. A very good talk about an automotive engine modified for aircraft use and the glass instrument panel to go with it. 5500 takeoff rpm, cruise rpm 3900 to 4500.

December update: The Holiday Party was very well attended and all sure seemed to have a good time. The Hawthorne Inn was a good—no, very good—place for this event. Jim Simmons did the honors in presenting the year's activities, awards, and accomplishments in PowerPoint format. Jim also ran the grab bag event.

—Dave Pepe, secretary

"Thank you for flying Delta Business Express. We hope you enjoyed giving us the business as much as we enjoyed taking you for a ride."

Lerman's Law of Technology: Any technical problem can be overcome given enough time and money. Corollary: You are never given enough time or money.

For Sale 1997 RV-6A

430 hours TTA&E. 180hp Lycoming O-360-A1A. Prince 68x80 P-Tip propeller. DJ Lauritson upholstery (blue and grey). King KX-125 nav-com, King transponder, intercom. Electronics international carb/OAT, volt/ammeter, oil pressure/temperature, and CHT/EGT. Vacuum attitude and DG. Single axis autopilot/TC. G-meter, clock, interior lights w/dimmer. MAC electric trim. Joystick has trim, flap and PTT switches. Paint is US Paints Awlgrip (linear polyurethane) White, with blue and red stripes, with clear overcoat. Whelen strobes and position lights. Garmin 95 GPS. EBC elt beacon. Removable sunshade for sliding canopy. Performance per Van's specifications—200 mph TAS at 8000 ft, 45mph stall (dirty). Never damaged, always hangared.



Asking \$75,000 USD—Contact Fred at frredd2002@mac.com or rvdriver@comcast.net

The deadline for submission of materials for the February newsletter is February 5, 2004.

2004 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the following information and mail with your dues to:
EAA Chapter 27, c/o Barbara Johnson, 9 Dillon Rd., Woodbridge, CT 06525
(Dues are \$15.00 per year, make checks payable to: EAA Chapter 27)

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Street: _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email address: _____
EAA Membership No: _____ Pilot rating held: _____
Do you own an aircraft?: _____ Make & Model: _____ Registration No: _____
Are you building an aircraft?: _____ Make & Model: _____ % completed? _____



The Leader in Recreational Aviation

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Meetings held on the third Sunday of the month at Meriden-Markham Airport,
Meriden, CT at 10am unless otherwise noted.
www.eaa27.org