



# Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, June 24, 2001, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden

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June, 2001

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Chapter 27,  
Experimental  
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Association

## Meeting Minutes

Sunday, May 20, 2001

President Fred Caputo began the meeting at 10:05 at Jim and Betty Simmons' house. Thanks to Jim and Betty for their hospitality! Too bad the pool wasn't open!

Vice President Steve Socoloski was present. Treasurer Margaret Bass and Treasurer Jerry Bass were absent. Poor Jerry was forced on a miserable business adventure in Hawaii.

Visitors included former president Max Lopez.

There was no treasurer's report.

**Tech Counselor's Report:** Bob Burke gave his "happy man's" description of the Van's RV-7. Bob says it's basically an erector set and he's laughing so hard, tears are staining the

metal. Ed Morris related his time in Florida and how home builders there build a little more slowly.

**Young Eagle:** Young Eagles day is Saturday, June 9 from 9-4 (*Look for a full report on page 3*). Fran told us that there's a model airplane club that has a small group of kids—10-14—who are interested in becoming Young Eagles. We will be making a special day to fly them.

**Old Business: Hangar Committee.** Ed Morris says that plan number 4 (of 5) has been chosen for the MMK reconstruction. A brief discussion ensued about a hangar of helicopters which is being vacated. Perhaps Chapter 27 could arrange something with that.

Jude Steele suggested that various subcommittees are needed to obtain

**There will be no meeting on June 17.** Come to the picnic on June 24 instead.

*New Frequency at MMK is in effect: 123.05.* Jim Simmons will coordinate painting the new frequency on the airport.

**New Business: Fly-Ins:** June 16, Cooperstown, NY. June 17, Chapter 324 pancake breakfast at Simsbury. June 23, Windsock Village, NH.

There will be a Chapter leadership seminar at the Pratt Customer Training Center in East Hartford on June 16.

Bob Burke is starting a builder's group to meet in Milford on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. Contact Bob if you're interested. 526 Welche's Point Rd, Milford, CT 06460. (203) 874-5247. Or email MissyB526@aol.com



Jim Simmons (center) discusses some of the elements that go into building a GP-4 wing. *Jim Maher photo*

a hangar—fund raising, communications, etc. Contact Jude if you're interested in helping out.

The next hangar committee meeting will be Sunday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m. at the Chapter 27 picnic.

*Chapter picnic:* Alan Ortner reminds us that the chapter picnic is Sunday, June 24 at 9:00 a.m. The grass needs to be cut (volunteers?). There's a notice in the Atlantic Flyer. Al will bring sodas.

**Seminar:** Thank you to Jim and Betty Simmons for their hospitality. Jim gave us an interesting and detailed tour of his GP-4. One of the highlights was Jim demonstrating the operation of the GP-4's retractable landing gear which was hooked up to a temporary power source. Definately a high quality job! Thanks Jim!

—Steve Socoloski

Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it.

## Igor Sikorsky Jr. to speak in Stratford

Igor Sikorsky Jr, son of the famous helicopter pioneer, will be the honored guest and speaker at the Tuesday June 26th EAA Chapter 1208 meeting in Stratford, CT at 7:30 PM.

His topic will be "*Reflections and Remembrances of my Dad, Igor Sikorsky*". The presentation will be at the National Helicopter Museum in Stratford, which is located inside the *Eastbound* train station building, on Main street near Interstate 95.

Mr. Sikorsky is a lawyer by profession, and frequent speaker on his father's career and accomplishments. (His brother Sergei is also on the lecture circuit, including several interviews on aviation documentaries on TV.) He is a board member of the National Helicopter Museum, the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks, and the new Connecticut Air and Space Center Museum in Stratford. His presentation is open to the public and admission is free.

For more information, EMail Ron at [RonPilotPi@aol.com](mailto:RonPilotPi@aol.com)



**Who are these people?** Can you identify any of them? The answer's on page 4.

## Obey your hunger—Come to the Chapter Picnic

The Annual Chapter 27 Picnic will be held on Sunday, June 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Meriden-Markham Airport. It's potluck so bring your own plus some to share. Gas grills and soft drinks will be available. There will be a People's Choice award for the best plane, games, raffles and lots of great hangar flying. We'll also be selling all sorts of nifty EAA Chapter 27 memorabilia, so bring your pennies!

Note that the picnic will happen instead of our regularly scheduled meeting on June 17. For more information, call Alan Ortner at (860) 828-6429 or via email at [AEOrtner@home.com](mailto:AEOrtner@home.com).

## Did You Invite A Young Eagle To Our Rally?

We'd like to share the story of one particular Young Eagle who got to fly during our International Young Eagle Day flights at Meriden Airport on Saturday, June 9.

During their reading of the Hartford Courant, Chapter 27 members Bob and Ramona Upson read an article about an exceptional Hartford inner city student named Omar Acosta. Omar is graduating from high school this June and will be furthering his education by attending the University of New Haven. The article stated that Omar's goal was to become a pilot someday. Ramona was so taken with the story that she personally took it upon herself to contact the high school. She explained our program and her desire to have Omar

attend our Young Eagles rally. The school cooperated and put Bob and Ramona in touch with Omar and his parents. The Upsons secured the family's approval for the flight, then they picked him up and brought him to the event. Omar got to experience a comprehensive cockpit review of Fran Uliano's Cherokee as well as a flight in Jim Simmons' Skybolt. We're confident that our chapter has helped reinforce the desire within Omar to achieve his goal and become a commercial pilot.

Our sincere thanks to the Upsons (and everyone else involved) for their support of the Young Eagles program.

—Jim Simmons



## EAA Airventure 2001 NOTAM Now Available On-line and in Print

The FAA has released the EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2001 Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), which features arrival and departure procedures for EAA's 49th annual gathering at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.

The NOTAM, which is in effect July 21-30, outlines procedures for the many types of aircraft that fly to Oshkosh for the event, as well as aircraft that land at nearby airports. It was designed by EAA and approved by FAA to assist pilots in preparations for their AirVenture flights.

The on-line Adobe Acrobat (pdf) version of the NOTAM is available at the EAA AirVenture web site ([www.airventure.org](http://www.airventure.org)). A link to the free Adobe Acrobat Reader is also available at that site, allowing viewers to choose specific NOTAM pages to download. An HTML graphic representation of the NOTAM is also available at the FAA web site ([www.faa.gov/NTAP](http://www.faa.gov/NTAP)).

A 32-page printed NOTAM is available by calling EAA Membership Services at 800-564-6322 or through any one of 15 selected Automated Flight Service Stations (AFSS) throughout the country. Canadian pilots should contact Transport Canada, General Aviation, at 613-990-1022.

## Good News, Bad News, Good News about Young Eagles Day at MMK

Chapter 27 held its Young Eagles day in conjunction with International Young Eagles Day on Saturday, June 9. It was a day of great promise, with gorgeous weather: clear skies, warm temperatures and little wind. A great day for introducing kids to flying.

The good news was that we had plenty of help. Many thanks to those who volunteered their Saturday to help. The pilots: Joe Bogacki, Fred Caputo, Bill Jagoda, Ray Morgan, Jim Simmons, Fran Uliano (who also organized the event), Chuck Waldo and Mike Zemsta. Ground boss, Bill Simon. Photographers Jerry Bass and Maury Libson. Our registrars Margaret Bass and Barbara Uliano. And Bob and Sheila Seeman and Rick Beebe. Also thanks to the other members who dropped by to lend their support. And the day started out well, with some youngsters arriving before the event started.

The bad news was that many of the local papers neglected to print our announcement and so attendance was down considerably from years past. In fact the initial burst of kids was pretty much it until late in the day when another group showed up. Perhaps the call of baseball was stronger than the call to wings. Regardless, the sixteen Young Eagles who did show up all had a good time.

The good news was that Channel 3 (WFSB) News sent a reporter and a cameraman to do a report on the event. They arrived in time to interview Fran and some of the new Young Eagles and to get some footage of the process of taking these kids flying. Chuck Waldo graciously allowed the cameraman to go along on a flight and they got some nice aerial footage. The clip ran on the 6:00 News and Fran reports that he's since received many calls from parents who are interested in the Young Eagles program. We may have to schedule another day to fly them all.

On the national front, the fine weather extended over most of the country and thousands of kids got a chance to fly at nearly 150 Young Eagles rallies nationwide. Some numbers reported on AVWeb ([www.avweb.com](http://www.avweb.com)): 300 at Meigs Field, Chicago where the theme was "Endangered Species: Young Eagles at Meigs Field." 373 in Sioux Falls, SD, 225 in Oshkosh, WI and 85 in Westerly, RI. Young Eagles headquarters reports that more than 27,000 kids have become Young Eagles since January 1st—11,196 in May alone—and that they're well on their way of reaching their goal of flying one million kids by December 17, 2003—the 100th anniversary of powered flight—with a current total of nearly 692,000.



EAA photo

## Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report at the May meeting and the treasurer won't be at the June meeting/picnic either. Here's an abbreviated report covering those two months. Balance as of April 30, 2001: \$2,423.00. Balance as of May 31, 2001: \$2,483.73, an increase of \$60.73. Questions may be raised at the July meeting.

## It ain't over 'til it's over

In the February newsletter we reported on the sale of Stoddard-Hamilton—bankrupt makers of the Glasair and GlaStar kit planes—to Dace Kirk and his partners. That deal fell apart when Arlington Aircraft Design, which owns the GlaStar design, agreed to buy the GlaStar manuals and inventory, separating the GlaStar and Glasair lines. At that point Kirk withdrew his offer of \$593,000 for *all* S-H assets and submitted a bid of \$200,000 for just the

Glasair. Thomas Wathen, owner of Flabob Airport, appeared in the courtroom with a \$300,000 counter bid and Kirk opted out. The deals with Wathen and Arlington were finalized on April 17 by Judge Thomas Glover.

Hopefully this long and painful saga is finally over and we can watch and see what these two companies will do with these very fine kit airplanes. Glasair info is already at [www.newglasair.com](http://www.newglasair.com)

If at first you don't succeed, then skydiving definitely isn't for you...

## Mystery Photo

So who are those people? Fred Caputo says: It's of me, Margaret Rakas (on the left) and astronaut Cady Coleman. The Space Shuttle "Discovery" is in the background, in landing configuration, being prepped for its next flight. We got to go aboard shortly after this was taken (I got to sit in the pilots seat!)

## Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of materials for the July newsletter is July 5, 2001. Let's have your news items, building tips, flying stories and interesting web sites. Send them to Rick Beebe, 360 Mountain Road, Hamden, CT 06514 or via email to rick@beebe.org.

## For Sale

**KR-1 and KR-2 kits.** KR-1 is about 35% completed—spar, landing gear, most of the fuselage. KR-2 is untouched. Cleveland wheels and many parts and supplies. \$2500 for both. Morris Dibner  
**203-746-2754**

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## 2001 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the following information and mail with your dues to:

Margaret Bass, 20 Pine Glen Road, Simsbury, CT 06070

(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? \_\_\_\_\_



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