



Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, May 20, 2001, 10 a.m., Jim Simmons's House, Cheshire

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May, 2001

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Chapter 27,
Experimental
Aircraft
Association

Secretary report

Sunday, April 22 2001

From the *New England Air
Museum*.

Club meeting started at Ten.
President Caputo and all board
members present.

We had many guests. Some did not
announce their presence.

Margaret gave a treasurer's report:
It was seconded and passed.

Fran Uliano reminded us that
Young Eagle day at Meridan will be
June 9.

We had one report from Bob Burke,
about his aircraft inspections. Keep
up the good work.

Old Business: The hanger commit-
tee had more discussion. People
from the group gave some ideas.

Van's calendars \$12 each. Four are
remaining at bargain prices of 2 for
\$24. Great RV photos.

Refreshment chair people, are Bob
Upton, and Bob Rouch. Bob will
make coffee, and the other Bob will
bring donuts.

Remember the Christmas Party at
Yankee Silversmith Restaurant. We
started a tentative list and have 14
couples signed up so far. We need
40 people to qualify for the large
room.

New Business: The EAA will hold
a Safety Feast on May 12th at the
UTC hanger in East Hartford. Fred
said he and Jim Simmons need
volunteers for the sheet metal and
wood demonstrations. (see related
article on page 3)

continued on page 3

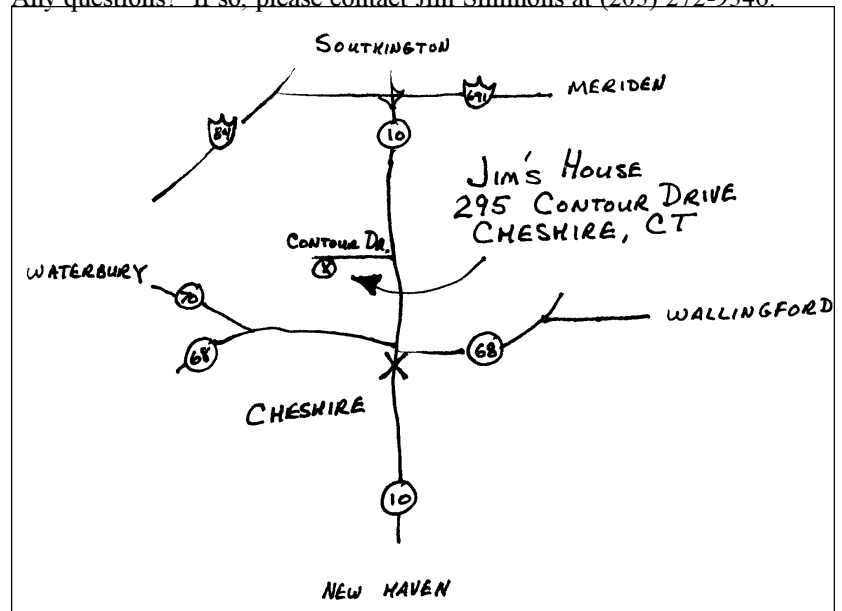
Important: Location Change for May Meeting!

The Sunday, May 20th meeting of EAA Chapter 27 will be held at the home of Jim Simmons in Cheshire, CT. In addition to our normal 10AM monthly chapter business meeting, members will be able to view the current state of Jim's GP-4 project. As usual, refreshments will also be available.

The GP-4, it is a plans-built, all wood, high performance aircraft. It is a low wing, retractable gear, monoplane design which features side by side seating, 1100 mile range and 240 mph cruise speed. Jim has been working on this aircraft for approximately three years and all major assemblies will be available for your viewing.

Everyone is invited to attend. See the map below for directions.

Any questions? If so, please contact Jim Simmons at (203) 272-9346.



Same Bat Time, Different Bat Channel

Effective May 17, 2001, Meriden Markham Airport (MMK) has a new UNICOM frequency: **123.05**. A NOTAM will be issued describing the change and the FAA Aeronautical Information Service has been notified so it can change its publications.

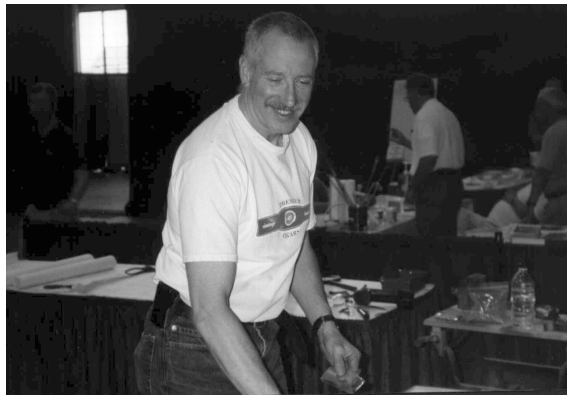
There will be a transition period when MMK UNICOM will monitor both frequencies: **123.05** and the old frequency, 122.8. When flying near the airport be aware that there may be other aircraft that are not on the right frequency. If you hear transmissions on 122.8 for MMK, please advise them of the frequency change. Our goal is to minimize missed communica-
tions.

SafetyFest 2001

The FAA-sponsored SafetyFest/MaintenanceFest 2001 took place on May 12 at the Pratt & Whitney Customer training center at Rentschler Field in East Hartford. More than fifty vendors set up booths showing off their maintenance items, repair services, avionics and tools. Aerosance was displaying their long-awaited fadec system and Pratt & Whitney had a nifty virtual reality display where you could fly through a jet engine in 3-D.

Many organizations were also present including the Connecticut chapter of the 99's, the Connecticut Lighter Than Air ballooning association, the Connecticut Parachuting association and Air LifeLine. The FAA was giving 'rides' in their gyrovator--an excellent way to safely experience "the leans." Be sure to give it a try the next time it's in your neighborhood.

The SafetyFest qualified as a Pilot Proficiency Award Program (Wings) event and there were many seminars given throughout the day including "Instrument



Fred Caputo prepares a "riveting" speech



Alan Ortner (left) and Mike Zemesta show an eager passer-by the finer points of shaping aluminium



Chris Kohler puts the finishing touches on an Steen Skybolt aileron rib

Approach Preparation," "Seaplane Flying," "Skydiving Operations," "GPS for the Private Pilot," and many more.

The featured speaker was Rinker Buck, author of the highly acclaimed *Flight of Passage*. He read passages from the book and told tales of his "adventure of a lifetime" when he, 15, and his brother, 17, flew a Piper PA-11 from New Jersey to California and back.

As in years past, the local EAA chapters were asked to contribute by setting up "Learn a Skill" experiences for the attendees. There were booths for woodworking, metalworking, composite construction, fabric and electrical with members of Chapter 27 manning the woodworking and metalworking areas. Many thanks to Fred Caputo for organizing the metal exhibit and to Jim Simmons for pulling together the woodworkers. Despite the hot day (and it was *hot* inside the exhibit hall), the event was well attended and many people



Rinker Buck reads a passage from his book. Behind him is a 1965 newspaper showing him and his brother in their PA-11 in El Paso, Texas

availed themselves of the hands-on experiences.

Sun 'n Fun 2001

Several members of Chapter 27 attended the annual Sun 'n Fun fly-in at Lakeland Florida last month. Florida's been experiencing a drought and, while bad for the crops, it made for perfect fly-in weather with sunny skies and temperatures in the mid-80's. Bad weather elsewhere in the country kept attendance lower than last year's record breaking numbers. Van's showed off the new RV-7 and RV-9a. AMD previewed the CH640, a 4-place all-metal kit and also introduced the Symphony, a certified version of the GlaStar. Groen Brothers Aviation spent the week doing near-aerobatic maneuvers in their soon-to-be certified turbine-powered gyrocopter and Liberty Aircraft was demonstrating the prototype Liberty XL, a certified version of the Europa kitplane. Bruce Bohannon made a bid for the world's record for horizontal flight in a normally-aspirated piston powered plane:



Jimmy Buffett's Grumman Albatross

34,744 feet. Here are a few photos from the venue. Remember, Oshkosh is just around the corner!



This jet-assisted Waco biplane was a daily sight!



The new JAG kit from Rinke Aerospace



Stay outta his way! GBA's concept load-hauler made from a Cessna Skymaster airframe



Some things are just too weird...



Visitors came from all over the world



A Navy F-14 fly-by over the judges stand

Secretary's Report, continued from page 1

Club VP Steve Socolosky asked for ideas for club seminars. Our April meeting will be at Jim Simmons House. (see related article, page 1)

Jim Simmons suggested we paint the new Unicom frequencies on the runway. It was to have taken effect on April 1, however it has been delayed. More news as we get it.

Time to pay our Dues. Mail a check for \$15 to Margaret or pay at the meeting. Fill out your dossier as you pay so we can keep the roster up to date. This is your last newsletter if you haven't paid. **Chris Kohler has**

called the 45 people who have not paid and we got 6 or 7 checks from that. Thanks Chris.

Our seminar for the morning was to look at the B29 restoration project in the museum building. It is quite a project. With four engines and all the aluminum to repair, they have my blessings. How do they keep track of all the parts?

Thanks to Steve Socoloski for the great look at the B29 and the refreshments.

Margaret will not attend the next meeting and will report in June.

Jerry Bass

Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submission of materials for the June newsletter is June 6, 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.

Also your comments or suggestions about the way the newsletter looks or other things you'd like to see in it would also be appreciated.

GLASTAR project For Sale

Complete kit. (Not enough time between work, flying my 172, riding 2 motorcycles, and yardwork)

Tail done, excellent workmanship. Experts rate the Glastar "One of the sweetest flying planes !"

Invested over \$30K--many fast build options. Asking \$25K obo. Call for details. 860-621-7588

RV-6A kit

FOR SALE
Emp Fuselage and Wings
Lost medical
\$8K
(203)865-4528



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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