April 2003

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Projects Wanted!

The Chapter membership wants to see your project! Send your photos and a paragraph or two about the project to Dave Biesemeier, e-mail: dbiesemeier@wans.net.



EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

Founded 1957

MILE HIGH FLYER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 43



DAVID CALVERT'S ZENITH CH 601 XL PROJECT

I choose the Zenith XL for a variety of reasons. The following factors are generally in order of priority. It has the capacity to carry my wife and myself, as well as fuel and baggage. The cockpit is roomy enough for my 6 ft. 2 in. size. It seems to be a relatively forgiving airplane to fly, sporty but not aerobatic, with a very low stall speed. I'm a low time pilot and didn't want something that might get me in trouble. It claims to be a low time build, using pull rivets and all metal construction. I've done a few other projects and know I need simple construction in order to finish.

It was designed by a professional with good credentials. It can use a relatively small power plant of around 100 hp, allowing mogas and low burn rates. It has wings that can be removed for storage or transport. Finally, I prefer the low wing, higher visibility style of aircraft. The main negative is its relatively low cruise speed, but this was not a big issue for me.

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April Meeting: Saturday, April 12, 2003, at 7:00 P.M. Tri-County Airport, 2nd floor of the FBO. Take CO Hwy 7 to the airport entrance and follow the entrance road to the FBO. Please park in the parking lot for security reasons! Program: Gene Horsman's Mercury project update.

FROM PRESIDENT PATTI

A Dichotomous Day..... Public Opinion and Aviation

I sit here watching the sun set over the Arapahoe Peaks from the window-lined northwest wall of our new home at Erie airpark. Gazing at the snow plumes off the summit of Long's Peak, the Duchess takes off on 15 for a twilight adventure. Cliff and I have dreamed about living in the airpark for years. When we first moved to Colorado eight years ago, we investigated a property at Erie Airpark but did not follow-through on this opportunity. Since then, every time we have traveled, we sought out "live with your airplane" communities to survey what was available for retirement; having given up on living with the Kitfox (N90869) in the near term.

As many of you know, we acquired a lot in Erie Airpark (Piper Drive, S side of RWY9-27) and began building our dream home early last year. Cliff (as the owner-builder) labored intensely to make this home the best-built home and hangar that I could imagine. The house was given its "certificate of occupancy" on Thursday, March 20th. We were scheduled to close on the 21st but the recent winter weather impeded the title company from getting their act together.

In the mean time, I had been contacted by a reporter at the Daily Times Call who wanted to do an article on aviation and experimental aircraft. We set up a date to meet at 48V on Tuesday the 25th to discuss aviation, the EAA and to give her (Jen) a ride in the Kitfox. Jen was animated and genuinely interested in what Cliff and I had to say about experimental aircraft, the EAA and flying in general. The morning had started out great. We were scheduled to close on our home that same afternoon. Then, the loan broker called to say that there was a problem. The lender refused to accept the appraisal on our home. They believed that the value was 'inflated' and that if we defaulted on the loan, they would not be able to sell the home. It was in an airpark and "not everyone wants a hangar." From what planet did these lenders come? What have we, as pilots and aviation enthusiasts, done to promote or refute such a negative association of living on or near airports? Obviously, we have not penetrated well through the dense fog of general public opinion regarding general aviation and its benefits. They fail to realize the economic benefits of GA and the value of "personal access" to GA facilities.

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SUMMIT MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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Donald L. Coleman, MD, MPH PRESIDENT President Patti, continued.

Cliff just nudged me to infer that I am being a bit "long-winded"; which may be true since the Duchess just brought up the lights and is now landing on RWY 15. But, I encourage everyone to promote the positive aspects of aviation on your communities. We are the voice(s) that can make a difference through local government and other public forums.

Until next time, fly safe and may CAVU days be plentiful!

Patti

P.S. We have a new home phone 303-673-0021



ZENITH XL, continued from page one.

This photo shows the horizontal stabililizer ready for inspection and closure.





MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Minutes 3-9-03

Meeting was called to order at 19:04 by Pres. Patti.

Visitors

Greg Hall introduced 2 friends from Russia with impressive credentials in the aviation field: Boris Ayzenberg has a background in aviation maintenance specializing in corrosion control. And German Teterin, is a metallurgy professor.

Kirk Rafferty 6513 Estes St, Arvada; Dave Dooley 4675 Betty Pl., Erie, Swift owner; and Raymie 10623 W Patterson, Littleton.

Minutes

Moved-seconded-passed

Treasurers report

Bob Wilson reported a balance of \$10,158.40 and that there are 105 paid up members in Ch43.

Air Academy

Steve Beach brought up that we do not have a candidate for the Air Academy in OshKosh this year. If you know of a potential candidate, please contact a chapter officer soon. The first camps are in early June, so the registration deadline is just around the corner.

Regional Update

Steve Beach reports that the regional is really coming together. They have acquired the 501c3 tax exemption approval. There is also a volunteer marketing position open. Dennis Ebas is the scheduled speaker for the Fly-in banquet on Saturday night. Dennis was in charge of repairing the Hubbell telescope, in charge of the next generation space telescope and is quite an entertaining speaker.

The air show is filled out with 4 professional acts and the seminars are progressing well. If you are planning on attending Sun-N-Fun, contact Steve for exciting opportunities.

B17 Update

Mark Graf said there is a need for volunteers on Friday, May 30 at Jeffco.

Stevens Aviation has offered their assistance, as well as both of the restaurants. If you know of any vendors that may be interested in participating have them contact Mark. There was a motion made and passed to concentrate on the B17 and hold a Young Eagles rally at a later date.

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WANTED:

Wanted to buy or borrow: unserviceable T-18 or similar canopy to use for fit-up on my full size aircraft project mock-up.

Call Jim Loyd at 303-280-3271

Minutes, contunied from page 4

Progress Reports

Tom Tomlin says he is working on the cowling for the 3300 Jabiru'd KitFox.

Bill Murphy and R80 Tiger Moth have a need for bunches of 2-2.5 in C clamps.

Ron Denight had a fine example of a range extender (fuel tank) for the Denight Special that he had just completed ProSealing.

Bill Mitchell is the proud owner of Team Air Bike.

Nolan Fredrick completed the Glastar ailerons and is working up the courage to start on the wings.

There is an RV7 on the gear but I was unable to confirm who it was.

Survey Results

The survey results that Pres. Patti asked for last month have been tabulated. Out of 50+ members at the meeting, 16 voted and the majority would like project visits for the monthly meetings.

Snow Buster

The Greeley Snow Buster fly-in is 3-23-03 sponsored by EAA Ch 720.

Roger Newman - your chapter ID badge is ready. Contact Pres. Patti.

Young Eagle Fund Raiser

There is semi private school that would like to raise funds by holding a Young Eagles Rally. Volunteers, pilots & planes will be needed – contact Bill Mitchell for the details.

EAA Biplane N1693

Dave Biesemeier received an email from Art Wilson in Granby regarding EAA Biplane N1693. It is (or was) red/white with the cartoon figure HoneyBee on the tail surface. Somebody is trying to locate this airplane for nostalgic reasons. If you know the location of this little bipe, contact Dave.

Dean Cochran adjourned the business meeting at 19:30.

Program: Collision Avoidance

Gary Henderson gave a very informative short presentation on collision avoidance. Bill Mitchell closed with some very helpful tips to use with tower controllers and little things that can be done to assist with their workload.

There was a second meeting held at Pasquini's in downtown Louisville.

Submitted by Chapter Secretary Al Manley

FOR SALE:

Steel sheves, 18" X 36", ideal for hangar storage shelves. \$5.00 ea. or \$100 for the whole batch of 30. Also, I have several 28 volt position light bulbs #1047 (single contact) for \$2.00 ea. Call Dave Biesemeier at 303-384-3760, or e-mail: dbiesemeier@wans.net.

GA PILOTS WERE AMONG THE "COLUMBIA" CREW From the AOPA

General aviation pilots were among the seven-person crew who died on the space shuttle "Columbia". Mission Specialist David Brown, 46, owned a Beechcraft Bonanza and had logged more than 2,700 flight hours, with 1,700 in high-prformance military aircraft. He was a Navy captain and a flight surgeon.

Mission Specialist Laurel Clark was a Navy commander and a flight surgeon. Brown and Clark were making their first space flights. Another active GA pilot, Mission Specialist Kalpana Chawla, 41, was an aerospace engineer and a certificated flight instructor with airplane, glider, multiengine, and seaplane ratings. She enjoyed doing aerobatics and flying tailwheel airplanes. STS-107 was her second space flight.

"We are reminded, in this 100th year of powered flight, that the dangers facing our earliest aviators continue to challenge those who extend our quest for understanding into the reaches of outer space," said AOPA President Phil Boyer.

Gene Horsman reports that the new 2003 Chapter Rosters will be available for pick-up at the May Chapter Picnic.

EAA Mile High Chapter 43

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Mile High Flyer
EAA Mile High Chapter 43
Gene Horsman
Data Base Editor
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FIRST CLASS





THIS MONTH'S MEETING:
Saturday, April 12th, Tri-County Airport FBO
Gene Horsman will present the program on his Mercury Project update.