

MARCH 2018

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A NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 517, INC.

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From the chapter president



Steve Rossiter



As we continue to slog through winter, even with the occasional hint of spring we are tempted every once in a while to start dragging out shorts and T-shirts. I hear rumors that winter will end – at least one of these days. In spite of the weather, things are ramping up for an exciting 2018 for EAA 517 and the Missoula aviation community.

In our effort to hurry winter along, we had a successful annual Mid-Winter Chili Feed on February 17. Winter bit us on the butt that day, so attendance was down. Those of us who braved the cold and snow enjoyed our chili, soup, rolls and cornbread. As is often the case, my chili ranked among the spiciest served but was well received. Many thanks to Ray Aten (cornbread), Ed and Kim Lovrien (chili, rolls and honey butter), Gary Weyerman (chili), Sherry Rossiter (soup), Joe Kilminster (beer) and the Chapter for condiments and cookies.

As I write this, the 2018 Montana State Aviation Conference is just a week away. As always when the conference is in Missoula, EAA 517 will have an exhibit booth. The difference this year is that we will be

doing some fundraising by holding two raffles. The first raffle is for one of Chapter member Dave Mihalic's framed aviation prints, "*Friends Drop In,*" depicting aircraft at a typical Montana backcountry airstrip for some serious camping alongside their airplanes. This raffle will cost \$5 per ticket and, of course, we will provide a quantity discount for multiple ticket purchases. The second raffle is for a new "old stock" flight helmet that would look terrific on anyone's book shelf. A ticket for this drawing will only cost \$1 plus opportunities for quantity discount purchases. I hope all of our members will spend at least one day at the conference; it is a terrific event, and once you've been to one, you will be back.

After the MT Aviation Conference we will be spinning up for the AOPA Regional Fly-In coming up in June. As a fundraiser, EAA 517 and other non-profits will help with vehicle parking for a donation from AOPA. The chapter will also hold a concurrent series of pancake breakfasts taking advantage of the AOPA crowds for another fundraiser for our chapter. We will also have a

booth at the AOPA event to allow us to do more fundraising and chapter member recruiting.

As you know, as members of Chapter 517, we each have access to the chapter hangars in both Missoula and Stevensville. With the terrific facilities at the MSO hangar you always have the opportunity to climb into "the tower" and simply watch the comings and goings of aircraft at the MSO airport. There is no better observation point on the airport. If you need to get a briefing on protocols for using the chapter hangar and common area, please give me a call anytime. It is partly yours, so feel free to use it. Things at the airport will be getting more active soon. Neptune and the Forest Service will start training for the tanker pilots and smoke jumpers respectively, so there will be more and more flying going on. By the way, we now have WiFi in the MSO hangar which will allow us to do things like streaming videos and other programs for our entertainment.

As flying season approaches, be careful and keep the dirty side down.

Steve



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteers Needed March 1, 2 & 3

Volunteers are still needed to help man the booth at the Aviation Conference. We need staffing at the booth to sell fundraising raffle ticket for two different raffles. Several of us on the Board of Directors will be tied up with other hosting duties, so we won't be available. Please let Sherry Rossiter know when you would be available so she can develop a schedule. She can be contacted at ssrossiter@aol.com or by phone or text at 406 544-6182. We will have credential to get the duty volunteers into the conference. Thanks.

Fly The Big Sky

We now have many new EAA Chapter 517 members. It is time again to talk about EAA Chapter 517's "Fly The Big Sky" specialty license plate. The Chapter initiated this program in 2006 and since then we receive a check from the state each month at the rate of \$20 per plate sold or renewed. This income has allowed the Chapter to provide more scholarships each year than any other organization in the state. Of course, this income also helps support such things as Young Eagles and other youth and adult education events.

It is our hope that each of our Chapter members has at least one "Fly The Big Sky" plate for the vehicles they own. It is wonderful when all the vehicles in one family are sporting this plate. All of us who "Fly The Big Sky" should be proud and brag about it on your vehicle license plate.

You don't have to wait until your normal license renewal cycle to get your "Fly The Big Sky" plate. You can go to your local county treasurer's office to get the plate. They will collect the fees and you will keep your normal renewal cycle. The state has a one-time fee above the \$20 they send the Chapter, so be aware.

So, if you don't have a plate, please help support the Chapter programs and get yours today. The more of these license plates that are on the road, the more aware the general public is about Montana general aviation. This is always a good thing.

For Sale

1 LightSpeed Thirty 3G headset and 1 LightSpeed 25XL headset. Buy one or both. MAKE OFFER. Call Judy Kline at 406-370-4727.

Dave Herzberg (email: ddh44@icloud.com) has the following 'like new' for sale:

Lightspeed Zulu 2 Bluetooth Headset \$700
Yaesu FTA-550L Li-Ion Handheld VHF Transceiver \$235

Has adapter to GA aircraft style plugs, good for radio backup or just listening.

Both are in almost new condition and only used a few times. Information for both is readily available on the internet. If you are interested, contact Dave directly.

Ladies Love Taildraggers offering scholarships

The Ladies Love Taildraggers organization is providing six scholarships for women by women – all to train women to get a taildragger endorsement, learn aerobatics or mountain flying. Most of the scholarships include travel expenses. Must be female, at least 18 years of age by May 1, 2018; hold a minimum of a sport pilot certificate; write a short post about your prior training experience; and be passionate about tail dragging. Deadline to apply online is midnight February 28, 2018.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Project Material

Art Chard, the renown RV builder in Stevensville, has moved to his next stage of life, which is simply doing special small projects for his friends. As a result, he had quite a lot of sheet metal and other miscellaneous items he wanted gone. EAA 517 member Bryan Douglas collected it all and now has it in his hangar, available for anyone who might need something. There are various gauges and sizes of material.

If you have a need, please let Steve know and he will hook you up with Bryan.

New Newsletter Features

We are always looking for new features to expand and improve the PropWash. Things to watch for in the future will be generated by the Chapter Technical Advisor, Chapter CFIs, Chapter Young Eagles Coordinator, and words of wisdom from your in house Safety Dog. All

these features should be initiated in the next couple of months.

One last item, any member who has had an experience you feel would be an educational or entertainment benefit to other members, are welcomed or rather encouraged to write it up for publication. Don't worry about your writing skills, that's what editors are for, right Clint?

Note from Clint: Editors make writers look good!



Calendar of Events

March 1, 2018

No Aviation History / Movie Night

March 1-3, 2018 – 1200

Annual Montana Aviation Conference
Place: Missoula Holiday Inn Downtown
EAA Chapter 517 is a co-host and exhibitor

March 3, 2018

No Coffee and Donuts event

March 19, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting – Details pending

April 16, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting – Details pending

May 21, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting – Details pending

June 15-16, 2018 – All Day

AOPA Regional Fly-in
Missoula International Airport

June 19, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting – Details pending

July 18, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting – Details pending

August 20, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting
Details pending

September 17, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting
Details pending

October 15, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting
Details pending

November 19, 2018 – 1800

Regular Chapter meeting
Details pending

December 17, 2018

Annual Wright Brothers Dinner
Details pending

MSO Hangar Observations and Concerns

By Steve Rossiter

Now that we have had several months of operation out of the MSO hangar, here are a few observations and guidelines for members to consider. All of the Chapter 517 members are stakeholders in this hangar. As such, all of us have a duty to help take care of the facility to preserve the asset for the enjoyment of all.

Hangar Bay Heating: It appears that our gas bill for heating is the same for the hangar bay whether we keep the temperature at 50 degrees or 60 degrees. The radiant heater doesn't seem to care, so we will keep the thermostats set for 60 degrees and bump it up on the days when we have a scheduled event in the hangar. Please remember, if you go to the hangar and turn the temperature up, please be sure to set it back to 60 degrees when you leave.

Hangar Bay Lights: There have been several occasions when someone has been in the hangar bay and turned on the lights and then failed to turn them off when they left. Please be sure that when you use the lights they get turned off when you leave.

Hangar Bay Mouse Problem: We have not yet secured the hangar bay from mice coming into the

hangar. We have some mouse traps set and it would be terrific for anyone going into the hangar to check the traps. If one or more are sprung, please get rid of the corpse, re-bait, and reset the traps. There is peanut butter in a plastic bag in the refrigerator for bait. When the weather warms a bit, we will be doing some things to the door seal to discourage critters from entering. Until then, we need to do it old school.

Related issue; because of the mice, please keep the door between the office and the hangar bay closed to prevent the critters from entering the office and common area.

Office and Common Area Lights: In the office and most of the areas, the lights are set up to come on and go off automatically. There are three areas where we have switched lighting: the kitchen and lounge area; the tower second to third floor stairwell; the tower itself. If you turn on a light switch, please remember to turn it off.

Office and Common Area Heating: By agreement with the other owners, we have set the heat for about 60 degrees in our office and the common area. If you need to turn either or both up, please be sure to turn them back down when you leave the facility.





Hangar Bay Street Door: This door can be locked open by turning the bolt on the lock mechanism to a vertical position. You can then go in and out without having to use the code. Of course, be sure to check that the bolt goes back to the horizontal position before you leave (this applies to the office door to the common area as well).

If you arrive and there is snow, please take a couple of minutes to shovel the snow away from the door. The snow shovel is against the storage cabinet by the street door. If there is ice, there is a bag of ice melt just inside the door; please use it. Snow and ice build ups will damage the lower door seal if we don't keep ice and snow controlled.

Ramp Man Door: Please read the notice on the inside of the man door in the bifold door. If you haven't received the training by the airport for ramp access, please don't go on the ramp unless there is someone with clearance present to accept responsibility for you on the ramp.

Hangar Refrigerator: The beverages in the refrigerator are there for your use and paid for by the

chapter. However, the chapter will never refuse donations to help keep it stocked.

Hangar Storage Cabinet: A storage cabinet is just inside the street door. There are various items stored there that will be needed from time to time. On the back pegboard there are a couple of brooms and a dust pan. On the inside pegboard there will be electrical cords and on the shelves paper towels and miscellaneous tools, hardware, etc.

Common Area Kitchen: For the most part we should normally have no need to use the stove or refrigerator in the common area. Beverages in the common area refrigerator were put there by someone else. So the rule there is, if you didn't put it there, it can't possibly be yours.

Please remember that the chapter facilities are there for you and your guests to use. Please feel free to help yourself. However, since we are not paying a cleaning service for cleaning the chapter area, so please leave it as clean as you found it. Thank you

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BUILDER'S REPORT

Rutan

Ed Lovrien

Limo EZ – 50%

Sonex

Larye Parkins

Waix – 30%

Van's RV

John Barba

RV-6

Zenith

Duane Felstet

CH-750 75%

Builders, please send updates to the newsletter editor at cburson@gmail.com so this list can be kept current.

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Artwork on aluminum – or fabric

By Clint Burson

There are a lot of reasons a plane can stand out in a crowd. Biplanes have the two stacked wings. Burt Rutan designs have the canard. The DC-3 has that iconic design.

Over the years I've picked up a different thing that draws me to various planes: The artwork painted on the body. Sometimes it's on the tail, sometimes the nose, and sometimes on the body. Whether it's a logo, a special design or just unique artwork, these designs that go beyond the normal white and stripes, I'm fascinated by the creativity, art and sometimes nods to history on display.

Military planes are always a good source of artwork. Bombers with the traditional nose art always seem to draw a crowd. I'm sure some of that is the nature of most nose art – pinup girls – plays a factor in grabbing people's attention.

Others, like the bee below are a product of a unit's nickname. They help identify the wing's planes on the deck of a carrier or the flightline of a base.

Some of the best artwork, at least in my book, are the old logos found on the sides of mail delivery, cargo planes or airline aircraft. The artistic designs shown in the paint of these planes is a window back in history, showing the trends of the time and the handiwork of the artist.

So if you see me at a fly in or airshow and I'm a little close to a plane with a camera, know that I'm likely documenting the artwork found on the side, the tail or the nose and adding to my collection.

