



April 2023
Volume 1, Issue 7



CAVU Chronicles

BYE AEROSPACE and the All Electric eFLYER

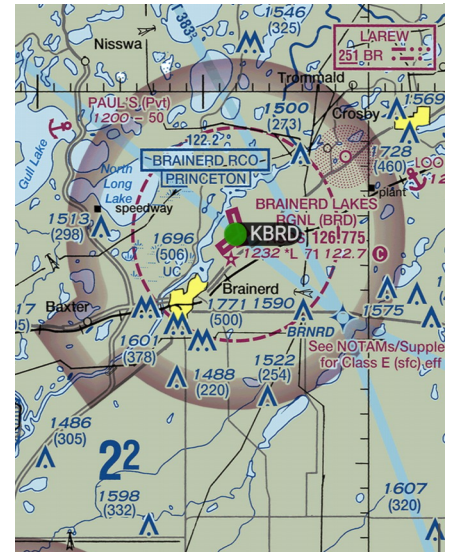
On (NEW DATE) Saturday, June 10*, we will be hosting a presentation on the “Future of Electric Aircraft.” This will be facilitated by Mr. Roderick Zastrow who is the Director at **Bye Aerospace**. This company is the designer and future manufacturer of an all-electric airplane, the eFLYER. As I mentioned in the March newsletter, I would devote space this month to briefly introduce “Who is Bye Aerospace?”

To get a broad-stroke idea of who’s who in electric aviation, I began by simply entering a Google search-string “industry leaders in electric aircraft.” I would encourage you to conduct this search and see for yourself the breadth and depth of what comes up. Topics include

- [Electric Airplane Industry & Trends](#)
- [A Look At The Emerging Electric Aircraft Sector](#)
- [Top 20 Companies Developing Commercial Electric Aircraft](#)
- [Electric Aircraft Market Size, Share, Trends & Growth Drivers](#)

What I discovered is the companies in this market segment are numerous: Names like Boeing, Tesla, Wright Electric, GE Aviation, Embraer, Diamond Aircraft, Joby Aviation (US), Bye Aerospace (US), DeLorean Aerospace (US), Electric Aircraft Corporation (US), Evektor (Czech Republic), PC Aero (Germany), Schempp-Hirth (Germany), Siemens (Germany), Volta-Volaré (US), and Yuneec International (China)...just to name a few.

An article written in Plane and Pilot Magazine (June, 2022) noted, “The company [Bye Aerospace] said that it has hammered out the certification basis and methods of compliance with the FAA for the emerging plane, allowing the company to build a conforming prototype.” (1) Then on January 24, 2023, the Denver-based company announced, “Bye Aerospace, a pioneer in electric aviation, has reached FAA Approval of its *G-2 Means of Compliance for Certification* issue paper, a major milestone in the certification process of its 2-seat, all-electric eFlyer 2 aircraft, which is all-new and purposely designed with electric propulsion.” (2)



In this issue:

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- Aitkin Fly-In
- Aviation History in Brainerd, MN
- Longster Project Update
- ICEPORT 2023
- The ‘LightAir’ Side
- Mark Your Calendar

References for the article on Pages 1 & 2.

1. Goyer I. "Bye Aerospace Announces Progress In Early Stages of Certification for Electric Plane." *Plane and Pilot*. June 30, 2022.

2. Herren C. "Major Milestone Achieved: FAA Approves eFlyer2 Certification Means of Compliance." *Bye Aerospace*. January 24, 2023.



Bye Aerospace eFlyer 2

This represents the first such approval in the general aviation industry, worldwide, by the FAA under Amendment 64 of FAR 23 for a Level 1 all-electric aircraft. According to George E. Bye, CEO, "With this major milestone approved, Bye Aerospace is now poised to enter the testing and compliance demonstration phase of the certification, including the fabrication of eFlyer 2 serial #001, and several production conforming aircraft."

It will be interesting to learn during Mr. Zastrow's presentation how their development program has evolved, what is the current status of electric propulsion for general aviation, the features and performance of the eFlyer, and what we can look forward to in the near future.

*NOTE: The date for this presentation has been changed to June 10.



Aitkin Ski-Plane and Wheels Chili and Hot Dog fly-in. By Trudi Amundson

March 18, 2023 brought blustery and very windy weather to the annual Aitkin Ski-Plane and Wheels Chili and Hot Dog fly-in. Winds were NNW gusting to 25 so The runways at Aitkin are 16/34 (asphalt) and 8/26 (grass/snow.) Despite the weather, 8 wheels aircraft flew in and one aircraft on skis who did land on the snow in the blustery wind.

All who attended ate heartily and had a great time talking aviation, weather and this hard, long, snowy winter. The turnout may have been lighter than last year (35 planes), but it still left everyone feeling hopeful for spring and the promise of good flying weather to come.

Terry Tichenor who is with the Aitkin chapter and an a retired Airforce Pilot took a nine-year-old on his first ride EVER in an airplane. This kid could not stop smiling. Hopefully, the aviation seed was planted.

The pictures on Page 7 are courtesy of Pamela Borsheim, photographer extraordinaire!!

THE TEENIE WEENIES AND THE TRI-MOTOR

By Mike Petersen

June of 1914 launched the debut of what was to become a very popular single frame comic. The Teenie Weenies made their debut in the Chicago Tribune and with a few breaks ran until 1970. Childrens writer and illustrator William Donahey created some 45 different two inch high characters who lived under a rose bush and existed in a world of regular size. Living in and amongst discarded full size things like cans, bottles, hats, these characters were found in school readers, childrens literature, lunch boxes, clothing, and of course the Sunday newspapers. Their popularity soared for a time but the Chicago Tribune temporarily suspended the comic in 1924. Out of work Donahey quickly looked for opportunities to exploit the popularity of his little people world, and began offering licensing opportunities for commercial promotion. One of the first to pick up on this opportunity was the Reid Murdoch Company of Chicago, owner of the Monarch Foods, distributor of canned products to local independent grocers. After all, the Teenie Weenies lived in a world of discarded cans, why not Monarch cans! Monarchs ad people soon realized that exposing large amounts of people to the products was the quickest route to brand awareness and sales. In the "plane crazy" world of the late 1920's there was no better way to do that than by airplane!

Acting swiftly, Reid Murdoch bought the 48th Ford 4AT Tri-Motor (registration NC7863) off of the Ford assembly line in November of 1928. Naming the giant plane Independence, in honor of their grocer customers, they hatched a unique plan. Gutting the interior of the aircraft and lining it with shelves full of Monarch brand can goods and packaged goods, the worlds first "Flying Grocery Store" was born! The airplane was soon plying the countryside, large cities and small, to introduce Monarch products to the throngs of people who turned out to see the airplane.

To help leverage the popularity of the Teenie Weenies, a couple of young boys dressed as Teenie Weenie characters, the General and the Policemen, often accompanied the aircraft as it visited from town to town. As soon as the aircraft landed, a platform would be set up to let the locals look inside and see the entire line of fine Monarch products. So you might ask, "What does this have to do with Brainerd?"

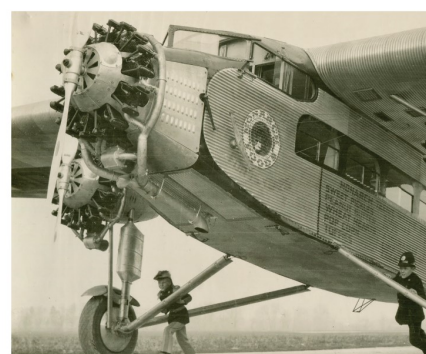
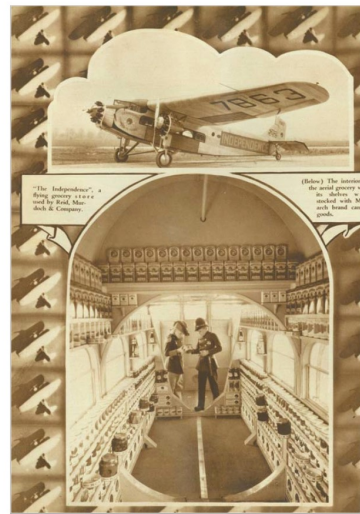
First advertised in July, and preceded with full page ads several days before, the great "Flying Grocery Store" Independence arrived at Brainerd's Rosko Airport on Tuesday October 8, 1929. The arrival drew large crowds to the airport to see this unique spectacle on Tuesday evening and Wednesday. The aircraft was piloted by Vernon "Crazy" Johns and



his copilot Jimmy Minser. Johns was a former Tulsa Oklahoma motorcycle cop turned barnstormer and earned his nickname because of his fearlessness. Despite his nickname Johns was an experienced and safe pilot, once quoted as saying "I never want to be the best pilot in the world, but

I want to be the oldest." His skills and experience helped develop copilot Jimmy Minser, only 20 years old, who reportedly started his relationship with Johns as a stowaway. Together the duo campaigned the TriMotor Independence throughout the United States.

All of the Brainerd independent grocers participated in the advertising for the Tri-Motor. And talk about shameless promotion, with two representatives of the Brainerd Dispatch on board, the TriMotor dropped 1,000 late edition newspapers from the TriMotor over Crosby, Deerwood, Riverton, Ironton and Cuyuna bringing those communities to a halt. The Dispatch reported, "Citizens came running from their homes to gaze skyward. All traffic was stopped as motorists left their cars to obtain a better view. Workmen stopped their toil all but awed at the spectacle. Crazy Johns, pilot of the mammoth ship speeded up to 97 miles an hour to reach the range towns as early as possible."



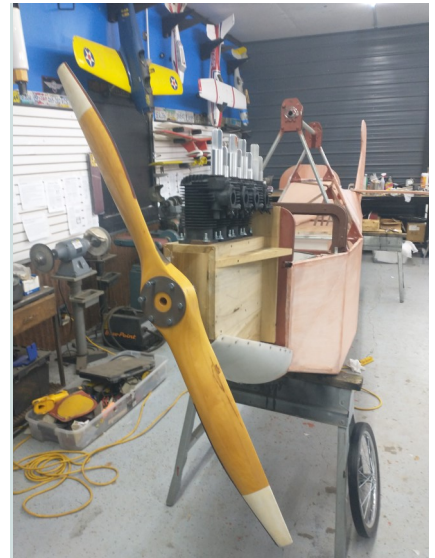
And what of the Teenie Weenies? It is unknown if any of them accompanied the Brainerd flight, but given the October timing it would be unlikely as the children would likely have been in school. Alas, the campaign came to an end with the sale of the Trimotor in 1931 and a crash in Alabama, destroying the aircraft in 1935.

EAA CHAPTER 1610 LONGSTER PROJECT: STATUS REPORT

Good news!! The fabric for the wings arrived. Now we can move forward with the next major phase of this project. Before applying this, some sanding and prep work needed to be done. Plus, a test piece of fabric was attached to the underside of one of the wings (as shown below) to see how it would “behave” when heat-shrunk.

Another related item of good news. This is when we start using the Stewart System as the fabric adhesive of choice...a **water-based** solvent. For any of you have never worked with products like MEK or “Poly-Tak”, the fumes can become quite “overwhelming”...especially in an enclosed workshop.

Inclement winter weather prevented the team meeting on March 16th.



For those who wish to help with this project, we meet at Paul’s the first and third Thursdays of every month, starting at 6:00 pm. Paul’s shop is very spacious and well-equipped to accommodate this endeavor. Please feel free to join us for the camaraderie and educational opportunity to learn new skills.



This photo of a 1930 Long Longster III (N10115) was taken at the Western Antique & Automobile Museum (WAAAM) in Hood River, Oregon by Terry Fletcher. (Photo ID: AC775058)

<https://www.waaamuseum.org/>

ICEPORT 2023 (Photos courtesy of Joel Wensman)



From *The MilleLacs Messenger*, dated March 9, 2023:

“Iceport came to Isle once more on Saturday, March 4. Mark Lee Priglmeier, organizer of the event, took to Facebook to say he believes “this was the largest turnout we have ever had.” The event took place at Mac’s Twin Bay, who undertook plowing and preparing the space on the lake; Da Boathouse also partnered with Iceport – both locations have worked with Iceport for the past five years. This was the 10th year of Iceport.”

From AOPA by Leonardo Correa Luna, March 9, 2023:

“A fantastic group of volunteers showed up at 8:30 a.m. for breakfast at the Da Boathouse, and from then they worked hard all day. The final count? The clicker of the official airplane counter for the 2023 Iceport edition showed 147 aircraft, including three helicopters. The count ended at 1:30 p.m., so it did not include several late arrivals.”

AITKIN SKI PLANE & WHEELS FLY-IN:

From the March 18th
Aitkin Ski-Plane and
Wheels fly-in chili
and hot dog event!!

See story on Page 2.

Photos courtesy of
Pamela Borsheim.

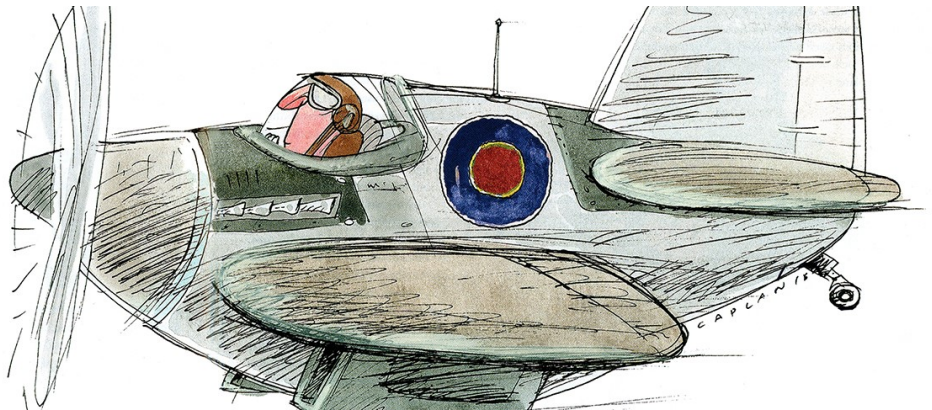


ON THE 'LIGHTAIR' SIDE: 😂

APRIL FOOLS PRANKS

THE COOKIE MONSTER: Unscrew several Oreo cookies and replace the filling with toothpaste. Sandwich the cookies back together and serve with milk to make it look like a totally normal snack. How disgusted they'll be probably depends on the flavor of the toothpaste you use for the prank!

CAT AND MOUSE: Not all good April Fools' pranks relate to food. For this one, cut a tiny piece of paper to fit undetected under your target's computer mouse. Write "Gotcha!" on it then stick it on the device with some tape. When they try to use the mouse, it won't work. A peek at the bottom of their mouse will let them know they've been pranked.



Recently in the news:

An FAA report submitted to Congress (as required) on March 10 reviewed three years of general aviation data and concluded that **the BasicMed program is safe.**

For more information see...

<https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2023/march/24/faa-report-validates-basicmed-safety>

Did you know...

On February 14, 1945, Leading Aircraftwoman Margaret Horton, an RAF WAAF, was assigned a familiar job: sit on the horizontal stabilizer of a Spitfire to help hold the tail down while it taxied on a windy day. Unfortunately, nobody thought to tell the pilot, Flight Lt. Neill Cox, that she'd be jumping aboard. (Horton later admitted that "the squadron was run in a slap-happy way.") The normal drill was for the tail-sitter to grab the aircraft's elevator and waggle it before the pilot turned onto the runway, so he'd know she was hopping off. But this time Cox made a casual gesture out of the cockpit that Margaret took to mean "Hang on, don't go yet." Big mistake. As the Spitfire accelerated down the runway, Horton had the good sense to quickly flop across the tail cone, where she was held in place by the vertical fin, her legs to the right and her torso to the left. Another WAAF who'd seen what was happening dashed off to tell a flight sergeant, who ran to the control tower. Cox was ordered to make a quick circuit and land, but wasn't told why. Between Horton's death grip on the elevator with her left hand plus the Spitfire's tail-heaviness, Cox had already figured that something was amiss, but he couldn't see as far aft as his airplane's empennage. Relieved to be back on the ground, Horton announced that after a change of panties and a cigarette, she'd be good to go back to work. She was later fined for losing her uniform beret during the short trip around the pattern.



EDIT YOUR CALENDAR

See the highlights below in **RED** for what has been added or rescheduled for Chapter 1610 meetings and events.

April 15: Regular Meeting & **Presentation on “Medical Issues for zPilots” by Dr. Walt Roberts**

May 6: BREEZY POINT FLY-IN & YOUNG EAGLES SIGN-UP

May 13: Regular Meeting & **Presentation on Carbon Monoxide**

May 20: YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHTS, Brainerd Airport

May 27: BRAT STAND FUNDRAISER at Crosslake Ace Hardware

May 28: BRAT STAND FUNDRAISER at Crosslake Ace Hardware

June 3: EAGLES FLIGHTS for Adults, Brainerd Airport

June 10: Regular Meeting & **Presentation: The Future of Electric Aircraft, by Roderick Zastro, Director, Bye Aerospace.**

July 8: Regular Meeting & **PINE RIVER AIRPORT OPEN HOUSE from 1-4 pm.**

July 19: HANGER 60 PARTY, BRAINERD AIRPORT

August 12: Regular Meeting

September 9: POKER RUN **No regular meeting this Saturday**

September 16: YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHTS at Breezy Point



DID YOU KNOW...?

An easy and convenient way to keep up-to-date on scheduled Chapter 1610 meetings, events, and other aviation-related programs is our Website.

First, open your web browser and type in **#eaa 1610**.

Once you open the website, select the tab **Event Calendar**.

The rest is easy.



CLOSING REMARKS

THANK YOU's go out to Mike Andersen and Trudi Amundson for their contributions to this month's newsletter.

I am still interested in hearing your suggestions for future topics in the Newsletter. I also encourage budding authors to submit content. Please contact Mark Bearss

- ◆ email to mgbearss@gmail.com
- ◆ Text to 952-818-9986

And finally, the contact information for Chapter 1610 has changed.

- ◆ The new email address is eaachapter1610@gmail.com
- ◆ The new phone number is (320) 232-5122