



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

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Inside this Issue

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| AIR ACADEMY PROGRAM | 1 |
| THOUGHTS ON SPORT PILOT | 2 |
| PRESIDENTS COCKPIT | 3 |
| NEWSCLIPS | 4 |
| CHRISTMAS BANQUET MENU | 5 |
| REKLAW PHOTOS | 6 |
| CHILI COOKOFF PHOTOS | 7 |
| CHILI COOKOFF RESULTS | 9 |
| NORRIS LOOKING AHEAD | 10 |
| OPERATING REGULATIONS | 11 |
| CHANCE MEETING | 12 |
| DEE BRAME TREASURER | 13 |
| RANDOLPH AIR SHOW | 13 |
| JOHN LATOUR PRESIDENT | 14 |
| WINGS & WHEELS PHOTOS | 15 |
| DO YOU NEED GRAPHICS? | 19 |
| CHAPTER 35 CONTACTS | 20 |
| CALENDAR | 21 |
| WANTED & FOR SALE | 22 |
| SPONSORS | 23 |
| DIRECTIONS TO SAN GERONIMO | 24 |

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EAA CHAPTER AIR ACADEMY PROGRAM

By Maarten Versteeg

EAA Chapter 35 is now budgeting to support our candidate for the 2008 scholarship.

The Chapter 35 Air Academy Program is in its sixth year. The six scholarships awarded to local high school students total more than \$5,400.

Two candidates applied for the 2007 EAA Chapter 35 sponsored Air Academy Advanced Camp. Matthew Crenwelge heard about the scholarship through our Builders Academy Program and Danny Mills learned through a Chapter 35 member. Both were very enthusiastic candidates. They interviewed with our Board of Directors and Matthew was selected to represent the Chapter 35 scholarship.

Matthew is a sixteen-year-old home schooled high school student. He is faithful in attending Builders Academy on the third Saturday of each month. Matthew is active in 4-H where he was the Junior Project Leader for an Aerospace Project.

In July, Matthew attended the 2007 EAA Advanced Air Academy Camp for youth ages 16 to 18. The academy is a unique summer camp that takes the interest of the students in aviation to the next level. Participants spend a week at the purpose-built Air Academy Lodge in Oshkosh completely immersed in the thrilling world of aviation. Top-notch aviation

instructors help youngsters explore the world of flight through aviation studies, hands-on activities of flight simulation and many other exciting experiences. The highlight of the week is a flight in a real airplane! These camps provide the foundation for a lifelong love of aviation as well as the opportunity to create friendships with fellow aviation enthusiasts.

Matthew briefed us at our EAA meeting, November 10, 2007. His presentation caught the attention of the attendees. His experience at Oshkosh left him with a feeling of satisfaction and the desire to continue his adventure of aviation history and flight. Matthew returned very enthusiastic about his first trip alone, all the new skills he had learned, and all the airplanes that he had seen at Air Venture. The EAA Chapter 35 Air Academy scholarship program is highly successful. It is refreshing to give an air adventure experience of a lifetime to a youngster and then hear their enthusiastic analysis of that experience. Good luck to you Matthew.

This program is open to students from the ages of 12 to 18, and we are now actively seeking our 2008 scholarship winner. Please contact me for additional information—phone 210.256.8972 or e-mail mhjb.versteeg@juno.com.