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EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

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MILE HIGH FLYER

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EAA CHAPTER 43 50TH. ANNIVERSARY 1958-2008

The Bio of Steve Beach....The Authorized Version

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I'm going to concentrate on my background in aviation because this newsletter isn't long enough to include all of my career history. Suffice it to say that I have been involved in a little bit of everything from horseshoeing to firefighting to business owner. Currently I am trying to finish out my career as a senior designer for Ball Corporation.

As with most of us, the aviation bug was planted early. When I was growing up in central Minnesota we had a flying minister in the little church that my family belonged to. Knowing that I liked airplanes, he secretly OK'd a flight with my mother and then surprised me one Saturday with a ride in his Cessna 140. That set the hook but it would take years before I would get into the left seat for lessons. In high school I worked for a gentleman that used a Mooney Super 21 for business and would often ask me to ride along, but that was as close to actually flying as I would get. I do recall one day shortly after I turned 16 and we were at the airport to clean up the airplane. He pointed out a Mooney Mite that was for sale and he thought I should buy it and start taking lessons while we fixed it up. Unfortunately they wanted \$700 for it and that was way out of my league. The missed opportunities always haunt later in life.

**EAA CHAPTER
43 50TH.
ANNIVERSARY
SEND IN YOUR
STORIES,
MILESTONES
&
ADVENTURES
TO
EDITOR**

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Next chapter meeting will be at 7PM on May 10 in the Mount Evans Room upstairs at the Rocky Mountain Metro Airport. (Jeffco) Program TBA

Steve Beach Bio Continued

While serving in the Air Force I kept waiting to be assigned to a base that had a flying club but no such luck. Finally in the early 80's I put the time and money together and got my SEL private. I haven't done a lot of flying (just 400+ hours) over the years but have thoroughly enjoyed the whole aviation community. My flight time has included the good, the bad and almost the ugly. Everything from flying Young Eagles (the good) to having an engine quit on the way home from AirVenture (almost the ugly). My flying time has been split fairly evenly between Cherokees, a J-3 Cub and the Mooney that I am currently flying. I also added a glider rating back in the mid 90's and someday would like to get back into soaring. There are two BD-5s hanging in the garage that will be donated to the chapter or a school to hopefully get students more involved in the building experience. After seeing the success that the Antiquers are having with their Taylorcraft, project I am sure that this is a good education experience to get kids involved with.

I joined EAA in the mid eighties and have been involved with the organization to some degree ever since. One of the real enjoyments in aviation is volunteering for the various events that come along. One of the best is Oshkosh and 2008 will be my fifteenth year of working on the flightline. Hopefully there will be many more. Everyone should try it at least once.

After moving to Colorado in 1994 I got involved with the Rocky Mountain EAA Regional Fly-In. I have served in many capacities over the years from serving sodas out of the Pepsi stand to director for the last two years at Longmont. It is reassuring to know that despite the break with EAA HQ the regional will continue this year in September. The RMRFI led to a couple of opportunities at EAA HQ. In the late 1990's and early 2000's I served on the EAA Chapter Advisory Council. I was then asked to help with the Regional Fly-Ins as national coordinator. Obviously that job came to screeching halt this year, but for some reason the new spare time that I gained is rapidly disappearing. On the local level I have been an officer with chapters 25 (Minneapolis) and 43, and as I mentioned above, everyone should try it at least once.

That at least gives you a small feeling for my life in GA. I feel very fortunate to have found aviation and the great people that go with it. There is something about getting together with old friends at a local flying event or Oshkosh that just makes the world go around.

Now for a short commercial. Not everyone is a volunteer at heart and that is OK. But if you are, here are three chapter opportunities that are rapidly approaching. The Erie Days on May 17th (Young Eagles), the Jeffco (Metro) Open House on June 7th (aircraft judging and a 43/EAA information booth) and the B-17 fall tour scheduled to be here in November. If these come off even half as good as the pancake breakfast, then we will all have a great time.

YOUNG EAGLES PAGE

On behalf of the Legacy High School Aeronautics class, I would like to convey their big THANK YOU to Brian Cabebe for organizing the Young Eagles flight for the students. They also wish to send a big THANKS to Michael Maya Charles, Pete Kelley, Herrill Davenport, Steve Beach and Eric Serani for volunteering their time and planes to fly the kids. THANKS also to Stephanie Wells, Mike Kreutzer, Adam Kreutzer, Seth Kreutzer, Scott Serani and George Grell for volunteering and keeping the ground operation moving so smoothly.

Your Dedication to promoting aviation to the Kids is outstanding and the kids really appreciate the opportunity to experience flight.

Thanks Again For your time and effort.

Al Godman

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Legacy High School Science Teacher
720-972-6700

The volunteers for the April 12, 2008 Legacy High School Young Eagle Rally were :

Ground: Stephanie Wells, Mike Kreutzer, Adam Kreutzer, Seth Kreutzer, Scott Serani, Georg Grell and Brian Cabebe.

Pilots: Michael Maya Charles, J-3 Cub, Al Godman, Cessna 172, Pete Kelly, Citabria, Herrill Davenport, Cessna 182, Steve Beach, Mooney and Eric Serani, Van's RV-10.

The kids were from three groups, Legacy High School kids, a Boy Scout Troop (Stephanie Well's son's troop), friends of Adam Kreutzer and an individual parent who contacted me directly. 32 kids in all.



REMEMBER WHEN

Ruston Field / Federal Heights Airport, Federal Heights, CO

The Ruston Airport was formed in 1944 by Harry Ruston. His idea for the airport was that some of the WW11 pilots would like to keep flying. It was one of the first private airports in Colorado. It was located SW of 100th. & Federal Blvd. (39.88N / 105.02W) It had one hanger for repairs and a second building for classrooms. (second building now gone / "Flight Deck Bar").

The airfield had 4 unpaved runways. The airport served as a training center for Regis College and Denver University. The airport closed in 1961 and it took Mr. Ruston three years to get out of debt. No trace remains of the runways, as the surrounding area has been heavily developed. The former hanger is still in use today as a Napa auto parts store. The Flight Deck bar was torn down in 2005. (story by Paul Freeman)

Undated aerial view



1949 Denver Sectional



Present day aircraft hanger / Napa Auto Parts
10160 N Federal Blvd.



Metro (Jeffco) Open House – June 7th

The Rocky Mountain Metro Airport will be holding an open house on June 7th, and this year's event is turning into something very special for the general public and pilots. Highlighting the show will be Patty Wagstaff and her Extra 300S, B-17 Sentimental Journey, the F-16 and F-18 Tactical Aerial Demonstration Teams and the local aircraft that we all love to see.

JAA (Jeffco Aviation Association) will be hosting its fly-in and aircraft judging in conjunction with the open house. Chapter 43 will be helping out with the judging and manning the registration booth. The booth will also be a 43 publicity location to introduce the public and pilots to EAA and our great chapter. There will be sign-up sheets at the meeting on the 10th and at the picnic on the 31st. If you can't commit but find that you are available please come out and enjoy the day. Even if you have never judged before, this is a nice opportunity to work with some of our seasoned people that can give you a good education.

This fly-in is very laid back and thoroughly enjoyable. Oh yes, don't forget to bring your airplane. If an old '64 Mooney with an original interior can win second place in the Contemporary class, then you know that some of your aircraft can do a whole lot better. It is only five dollars to register.

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Minutes of EAA Chapter 43 April 12, 2008

Our Vice President, *Greg Hall* called the business meeting to order at 7:03PM.

The minutes of the March meeting, as published in the newsletter, was accepted, seconded and approved by the members present.

Visitors: *Charlie Pace* of Westminster, *Dennis Dyer* of Pine CO, *Tony Goertzen* of Conifer. Thank you for coming and may you feel welcome.

Treasurer Report: Our Treasurer, *Lynn Miller*, gave our checking account balance. He listed the payouts for the logo shirts, newsletter and pancake breakfast expenses. The income from the breakfast hadn't been totaled yet.

Safety Officer, *John Evens*, was absent and *Stan Specht* will talk about some safety issues during the program.

Trip Reports: *Carl Harris* went to Sun N Fun.
Stephanie Wells went to Kauai. *Stan Specht* went to Phoenix for a Kitfox gathering.

Progress Reports: *Alex Yermilov* has finished his Mustang 11 and did a high speed taxi at Metro.

Gary Motley decided on a Sonex kit and finished the rudder, horizontal stabilizer and working on the spars.

Chad Ambrosius is finishing the elevator on the CH-701.

Old Business: *Stephanie Wells* shared about the Y.E. event that morning. (See Young Eagles Page)

New Business: *Bob Wilson* discussed the possibilities of the May picnic. He can host the event, but it would have to be outside the hanger. The date would also be changed. After some discussion, the picnic will be on May 31 and held outside of *Bob Wilson's* hanger at Vance Brand Airport in Longmont. *Bob* will handle the grilling meats and soft drinks. You may also bring your choice of meat to grill. Bring your own lawn chair and a side dish to share. Serving around 11:30 and noon. Some tents will be provided.

John Reuterskiold passed around the final draft of the chapter roster for any final corrections.

Lynn Miller talked about the scholarship fund. 3 board members interviewed a 14-year boy and his parents. The boy wants to be an airline pilot. The fund would give him \$1500 toward solo flight. No decision has been made yet. That has been the only applicant. Other scholarship applicants can still apply.

Steve Beach mentioned a young lady, *Reanna Elms* that was given a Y.E. ride, went on to the Air Force Academy and is now accepted into their flight program. This is how a Y.E. ride can develop.

Minutes Continued

B-17's on tour: Liberty Bell at Metro weekend of 19th. Sentimental Journey at Metro June 2-8. Aluminum Overcast at Centennial June 4-8.

Steve Beach plugged the Metro Open House. Chapter 43 will help with the judging and have a booth set up.

Greg Hall had some promotional posters and DVD's for AirVenture and asked for ideas for advertising the event.

Dean Cochran showed some pictures of the aircraft that was built by *Ron Delight's* dad. The Air Racing Association of Florida is restoring it for their museum.

Opportunity to serve. *Herrill Davenport* does an exceptional job of providing the audio & visual effects for our chapter meetings. He comes early to set up and stays late to load the equipment back up. He could use some help doing this if only helping to transport all the equipment back and forth.

Business meeting adjourned at 8:50.

Stan Specht provided a program on safety issues. While landing at Metro, he experienced wind shear, which resulted in a bent landing gear. He brought in the bent gear and had a good gear to compare it with. Thanks again *Stan* for filling in. Several other members shared stories of unusual landings.

A promo video of AirVenture was also shown.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

May 10	Next EAA 43 meeting at Metro Airport (upstairs in the Mt. Evans Room 7PM)
May 11	Mother's Day
May 17	Erie Town Fair / Young Eagles / Balloon Launch / 2 meals by Friends of Erie
May 17	Platte Valley Airport Fly-in 8-3 Pancake Breakfast & Lunch
May 17	AAA Taylorcraft Project
May 26	Memorial Day
May 31	EAA 43 Annual Picnic
June 2-8	B-17 Sentimental Journey at Metro
June 4-8	B-17 Aluminum Overcast Tour Stop Centennial
June 7	Metro Open House / EAA 43 Booth
June 15	Father's Day
June 30/July 3	Wings of Freedom Tour at Metro - B-17, B-24, B-25 July 3-6 at Ft.Collins

EAA Mile High Chapter 43

Chapter Officers

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Vice President	Stan Specht	303-232-8474
Vice President	Kyle Heckman	303-666-6485
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Treasurer	Lynn Miller	303-666-8233

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Safety Officer	John Evens	303-420-2724
Refreshments	John & Roxie Juul	303-466-2600

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Mile High Flyer
EAA Mile High Chapter 43
John Reuterskiold
Data Base Editor
32651 E. 149th. Avenue
Brighton, CO 80603

FIRST CLASS



Next chapter meeting will be at 7PM on May 10 in the Mount Evans Room upstairs at the Rocky Mountain Metro Airport. (Jeffco) Program TBA