

EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

*Founded 1957*

# MILE HIGH FLYER



March 2001

VOLUME 25 ISSUE 3



**MARCH MEETING: Saturday, MARCH 10th, 7:00 PM**

This month's meeting will be at **Tri-County Airport, Erie, CO, at Blue Grassfield's Mad Eagle Aeronautical Hangar.** Take CO Hwy 7 to Road 1 on the west side of the airport. Go north about 1/2 mile, bear right onto the road that leads to the big dark green hangar. Turn right at the gate and follow the drive to parking. **Bring your unneeded items because it will be an exciting and fun filled evening of auction action!!**

## WORDS FROM THE DATA BASE MANAGER

**I have set the March meeting, (March 10, 2001) as the cutoff to be listed in the 2001 Chapter Roster. Please check your mailing label on this newsletter. If it says anything but "01" after your name, you are not a 2001 paid-up member. This means that you will be dropped from the books effective March 11 when I finish the roster for printing.**

The roster should be available for members pickup at the April 14 meeting. If you have a problem with your address label please let me know. How many of you would like to be removed from the mailing list and receive the newsletter strictly from the web? I currently have John Pakan, Ed Spengler, Kevin Townsend and Terry Vellete on that list.

My e-mail address is: [ehorsman@juno.com](mailto:ehorsman@juno.com) and my mailing address is 210 Lookout View Ct., Golden CO 80401-2518. Phone 303/279-5782.  
**Thanks. Gene Horsman, Database Editor**

### First Flights

Tom Young has over an hour on the Arctic Fox and George Meshko has flown the Zenair 701 with the new engine. Congratulations to Tom & George!!!

### Cover Photo Details

Through the viewfinder of his camera, Naval Officer John Gay could see the fighter plane drop from the sky heading toward the port side of the aircraft carrier USS Constellation. At 1,000 feet, the pilot drops the F/A-18C Hornet to increase his speed to 750 mph, vapor flickering off the curved surfaces of the plane. In the precise moment a cloud in the shape of a farm-fresh egg forms around the Hornet 200 yards from the carrier, its engines rippling the Pacific Ocean just 75 feet below, Gay hears an explosion and snaps his camera shutter once. "I clicked the same time I heard the boom, and I knew I had it," Gay said. What he had was a technically meticulous depiction of the sound barrier being broken July 7, 1999, somewhere on the Pacific between Hawaii and Japan. Sports Illustrated, Brills Content, and Life ran the photo. The photo recently took first prize in the science and technology division in the World Press Photo 2000 contest, which

drew more than 42,000 entries worldwide.

"All of a sudden, in the last few days, I've been getting calls from everywhere about it again. It's kind of neat," he said, in a telephone interview from his station in Virginia Beach, Va. A naval veteran of 12 years, Gay, 38, manages a crew of eight assigned to take intelligence photographs from the high-tech belly of an F-14 Tomcat, the fastest fighter in the U.S. Navy. In July, Gay had been part of a Joint Task Force Exercise as the Constellation made its way to Japan. Gay selected his Nikon 90 S, one of the five 35 mm cameras he owns. He set his 80-300 mm zoom lens on 300 mm, set his shutter speed at 1/1000 of a second with an aperture setting of F5.6.

"I put it on full manual focus and exposure," Gay said. "I tell young photographers who are into automatic everything, you aren't going to get that shot on auto. The plane is too fast. The camera can't keep up."

At sea level a plane must exceed approx. 741mph to break the sound barrier, or the speed at which sound travels. The change in pressure as the plane outruns all of the pressure and sound waves in front of it is heard on the ground as an explosion or sonic boom. The pressure change condenses the water in the air as the jet passes these waves. Altitude, wind speed, humidity, the shape and trajectory of the plane- all of these affect the breaking of this barrier.

The slightest drag or atmospheric pull on the plane shatters the vapor oval like fireworks as the plane passes through. He said everything on July 7 was perfect. "You see this vapor flicker around the plane that gets bigger and bigger. You get this loud boom, and it's instantaneous. The vapor cloud is there, and then it's not there. It's the coolest thing you have ever seen."

Dave Biesemier contributed this excellent website of vendors and suppliers for homebuilders and aviation enthusiasts.

Gary VanRemortel's RV Builders' Yeller Pages.url

February Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2001

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM by President Roger Standard, at the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum at Lowry. Roger introduced our tour guide Dan Oredson (86 years young and tough to keep up with!) A veteran of W.W.II, Dan flew 50 missions with the 301st Bomb Group over Africa and Europe. After much too brief a tour of the some of the exhibits, a business meeting was held in the Lowry Room.

VISITORS: Guests included Bob Young, who describes himself as an enthusiast (aren't we all?), as well as an ex-Air Force Mechanic and A&P mechanic. David Trujillo, interested in building a Mustang II, and Brian Cox, who owns a set of Bear Hawk plans.

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES: M-S-P'd (Moved, Seconded and Passed by vote) as published.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Wilson was absent so Roger reported for him that we had a balance of \$3,064.78 in the chapter account.

ALUMINUM OVERCAST B-17: Our own EAA Chapter 43 will be the host chapter for the EAA's B-17 when it visits Colorado in June. Patty Begnaud is the Host Committee Chairperson and will be seeking volunteers to help with crowd control, ground events co-ordination including guided tours of the ship, man a booth at the Regional Fly-in (to be held the week prior to the B-17's visit) etc. The B-17 flight crew will be needing ground transportation, and a Public Relations volunteer is needed to contact news media outlets. The B-17 crew will be offering rides flying out of Jeffco Airport for \$375 each for non-

EAA members, \$325 each for EAA members. The "Overcast" will arrive on June 28th and stay for the weekend. EAA National has suggested that an old-time Hangar Dance might be a fun event to coincide with the visit. Make plans now to call Patti to volunteer for what should prove to be a fun weekend. And don't forget to reserve your ride position!.

TRIP REPORTS: Kelly Koop had the opportunity to visit the U. S. Air Force Museum at Wright - Patterson AFB, at Dayton, Ohio. He highly recommends the visit if you ever get in the neighborhood.

SAFETY: If you need an inspection on your project, contact Ron Denight, Chapter 43 Tech Counselor and Safety Rep.

GENE'S CORNER: Gene Horsman reported that the Office of Management and Budget, in their finite wisdom, decided that the FAA really didn't need all that money that the U.S Congress and Senate had deemed appropriate through funding bill AIR-21, and decided to slash the budget. All of the aviation alphabet groups immediately got their hackles up and barred their teeth, including newly appointed Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta. The OMB wisely decided to leave well enough alone, prompting Sec. Mineta to request that Aviation Trust Fund money be treated as guaranteed, as are Highway Funds.

GENERAL: The meeting adjournment was called for by Dean Cochran, seconded, and passed unanimously by the membership. The minutes were recorded by Dave Biesemeier in Secretary Al Manley's absence, and any errors, omissions, mis-spellings and grammatical errors are the fault of a poor upbringing and lack of education.

### Airventure 2001

Ruby Lanisch has a dorm room available. For details call: 970-532-7728 or 303-332-6336

I would like to share expenses and preparation work for a ride to Oshkosh this year. Would really like to get to fly into Air Venture on my first visit. Here's my particulars. Am willing to share fuel costs, preparation work and other expenses. Have possible room accommodations setup with very little expense. I'm 6' and 185lbs(will lose weight if needed in order to qualify as a passenger) . Private Pilot with 350hrs and current. I hope to be at Marches meeting.

Kevin Townsend  
303-438-0260  
ktownsen@televiso.com

### Fort Morgan Fly-in

Each year Fort Morgan has a weekend festival - Glenn Miller Days. Each year it falls on the same weekend as the regional fly-in in Longmont in late June. This year June 23rd & 24th. And each year few aircraft visit the Fort Morgan festival due to the date conflict. As a Fort Morgan festival committee member I have been requested to find anyone, especially antiquers, to visit Fort Morgan on the days outlined. Could you get the word around just in case anyone would like to fly out from Longmont or elsewhere for our pancake breakfast, or, just to buzz the field. I know its early but I am just trying to get a hold of any potential pilot/aircraft visitors that may have interest. WWI and WWII aircraft are of special interest, especially WWII due to the Glenn Miller era. Any comments or suggestions would be appreciated.

Rsvp at your convenience.

Thanks! Bud Aumann  
westmet@juno.com

# EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

## CHAPTER OFFICERS:

President - Roger Standard.....303-857-4821  
Vice President - George Hayes.....303-772-7040  
Vice President - Patti Begnaud.....303-604-9702  
Secretary - Al Manley .....303-776-6825  
Treasurer - Bob Wilson.....303-682-1857

## VOLUNTEER OFFICERS:

Technical Counselor - Ron Denight.....303-452-0458  
Technical Counselor - Marvin Wahl.....303-935-9934  
Technical Counselor - Art Schwarz.....303-412-6913  
Flight Advisor - Bill Mitchell.....303-427-4025  
Newsletter Editor - Al Manley.....303-776-6825  
Young Eagles Coordinator - Kelly Koop.....303-914-9687

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Submission of articles, comments, or inquiries for publication in the newsletter are encouraged.

Meetings are normally held on the second Saturday of each month at 7:00 P.M. The place is determined each month.

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## Mile High Flyer

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Gene Horsman  
Data Base Editor  
210 Lookout View Ct  
Golden CO 80401



## FIRST CLASS

AL MANLEY 01  
940 RANGEVIEW LANE  
LONGMONT, CO 80501



## THIS MONTH'S MEETING:

SATURDAY, 7:00 pm March 10, at Mad Eagle Aeronautics, Tri-County Airport

