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EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

Founded May 1958

MILE HIGH FLYER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 43



I'm Dave Biesemeier

Well, this is what you get when you don't send a bio. to the editor for this month's feature. Since I can't write for anybody else, I'll have to write about myself. I'll try to keep it from sounding like a resume'. I was born a poor black child in Tupelo Mississippi – oh wait, wrong story. Actually born in Denver a long, long time ago, before the middle of the last century. I had the same experiences growing up as most of you, building airplane models and trying to fly control line planes. Spent most of those times replacing propellers and trying to get that dumb .049 engine to start. Gee, that was fun...

I moved on to building balsa kit gliders covered with tissue and later very thin fabric coated with some noxious smelling “dope,” which is what my two sisters called me for smelling up the house. None of those kit models ever flew worth a tinkers damn, which concerned me (a lot!) when I was building my Sidewinder.

But, before I got started in that avocation, I pulled a stint in the Air Force fighting the “Cold War,” quite literally, as I was stationed in Minot, North Dakota for three and half long years, where the winter starts at the end of August and summer starts around the Fourth of July.

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SEPTEMBER MEETING: Sept. 8, 2007, 7:00 PM. Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport, BJC (the airport formerly known as Jeffco), upstairs to the Mount Evans Room. The program will be determined at some point.

Minutes of EAA 43 Meeting August 11, 2007

Our Vice President, *Greg Hall*, called the business meeting to order at 7:02PM. Roger Newman was not present.

Visitors: *Don Smith* of Lakewood, *Bob Smith* of Holt Michigan, *Hank Meevis* of Arvada and *Kathy Archer* of Greeley.

July Minutes: The minutes of the July business meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer Report: Our Treasurer, *Lynn Miller*, listed the monthly payouts and the balance of the chapter bank account.

Safety Report: *John Evens* was absent for the meeting. *Bill Mitchell* brought up first test flights. The best thing to do is to fly it yourself. When the flight is over, inspect the plane over and over to look for any flaws or problems.

Trip Reports: *Roger Standard* went to Oshkosh and entered one drawing and won. His prize was a \$2500 Upset Recovery Course. He also is selling his share of an RV.

Progress Reports: *Dave Courner* was able to locate a firewall forward kit for his RV-7. *Ed Maggard* purchased a Preceptor Ultratop project. *Greg Hall* got his petals hooked up to the rudder on his Horizon 1.

Old Business: *Lynn Miller* announced that all the old magazines picked up from the FBO would be disposed of unless someone has an interest in them.

New Business: *Bill Mitchell* announced an ultralight flyin over the Labor Day weekend at the Markham's. Sept. 1&2. Contact: *Mike Markham* 303-536-9272. *Jim Cimiluca* is selling an almost finished RV-9A for \$35K.

Some discussion on "No User Fees for General Aviation" followed. The general consensus was to sign any petitions and send form letters to the congressmen with your concern to not have airport user fees for general aviation.

Steve Beach brought up the topic of the EAA B-17. He asked the chapter if they wanted to host the plane when it comes to Denver on its tour next year. The chapter would have to go all out and have many volunteers to make it a success. It was also mentioned maybe we could get the plane and crew to extend the dates and be at the Regional. The application would have to be in by October. It will be a good opportunity to raise money for the chapter and increase membership. Steve will E-mail a list of positions needed to head up the operation.

Mike Gugeler shared about a recent cookout at Erie and suggested it might become a monthly event.

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Minutes, continued from page 2.

Joe Jones shared about his trip to Oshkosh and how he got a little stick time in a T-6. He also shared some info on the Nordon bombsites used in the war. The crosshairs were actually human hair. He is also working on putting out a line of aviation based Christmas cards.

Young Eagles: *Brian Cabebe* was not present for the meeting.

The motion to adjourn the business at 7:40 was made by *Dean Cochran*.

The program for the evening was presented by *Gordon Page*. It was about the recovery of a Messerschmitt plane from Russia. He also represented the Spirit of Flight Center in Lafayette. Great job *Gordon*. Check out the website at www.spiritofflight.com.

ANTHEM DAY AT ERIE AIRPORT

To all EAA Chapter 43 members

From Gene Horsman, 43 Data Base Editor

The Friends of Erie Airport, FOEA, are combining their Anthem Day (See Below) with our breakfast meeting on September 15.

Roxie Juul is heading up the breakfast preparation. Again see below. If you can help out please contact Roxie at jjjuul@uswest.net

The Next Big Deal, The Upcoming Event – September 15 - “Anthem Day at Erie Airport.”

In connection with EAA 43, Skyraider Aviation and Vector Air, the folks from the housing development on the south side of Highway 7 are invited to a day at the airport. EAA 43 will be hosting a fly-in/drive-in breakfast in the morning, we (FEIK) are doing a burger (or something) lunch, and will provide airplane rides to our neighbors who live under our traffic pattern. This is the first of our planned “Airport Neighbor Days” to win over those we fly over. If we pull these things off successfully it will go a long ways toward keeping the inevitable 'Close the Airport' crowd at bay.

Mike Gugeler, president, Friends of Erie Airport.
720-890-0552

FYI: Famous Test Pilots

To access a list of aviation history's most famous test pilots (complete with their respective photos and biographies) click on the link below. This is aviation history in spades, something you may want to save. <http://thetartanterror.blogspot.com/>

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - B-17 VISIT FROM STEVE BEACH

Chapter 43 Members: As I told the membership at the last meeting, Chapter 43 is in one of the best positions for getting the B-17 this year as we have been in the last four. If we do get the nod of approval for a stop at Metro we want to make the best showing that Denver has ever seen. In order to make this happen the board needs to know in advance that we will have enough volunteer coordinators to make it happen. Below is a list of jobs that will need to be filled to insure success. None of the jobs is particularly difficult, especially if we find one person for each of them.

We would like to have at least three quarters of the positions filled with volunteers before the September meeting. This is due the tight schedule for applying to HQ before the October deadline. Now you may not be able to take on a coordinator slot on your own, but do you have a friend that you might be able to share the job with? Any and all creative ideas will be considered!

If any of the positions look like something that you can handle please let me, or any of the board members, know before or at the September meeting (9/8).

Email: rsbeach@comcast.net

Phone or leave a message: 303-469-7661

Volunteer Coordinator Positions:

General Volunteer Coordinator: Assign the volunteers to the various tasks during the visit.

Aircraft Logistics: Help coordinate with the B-17 ground crew to ensure that we have all of the necessary equipment on hand. The regional fly-in has almost everything that will be needed.

Lodging: Contact local hotels to arrange for the best lodging and pricing for the crew during their stay.

Fuel: Work with the FBO's at Metro to get the best fuel prices for the bomber. Coordinate with the crew and the FBO to ensure that fuel is delivered on schedule.

Concession Stand Coordinator: Work with the B-17 ground crew on setting up the merchandise trailer and ensure that the trailer is staffed during the visit.

Marketing: This is a little more specialized position and one that requires someone that has some knowledge in getting media attention. The Regional Fly-In is very interested in teaming up with some joint advertising to help get the word out. We already have one volunteer for this area but he could use some good backup and assistance. Out of everything that comprises a B-17 visit this is one of the most critical components to ensure success.

EAA Booth: Help with getting the word out to the general public during the visit about the mission of EAA, the Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In and the local chapters. Chapter 43 had one of the single biggest membership drives when they last hosted the B-17 at Jeffco.

Thank You Note for Mark's Memorial

To: All the Members of Chapter 43:

There are no words to properly thank all of the members of Chapter 43 for donating a memorial plaque in Mark's memory. My daughter and I traveled to Oshkosh for the memorial service where we got to see his name on the memorial wall and view his picture with his bio in the memory book. Mark spent 42 years in the EAA and everyone who knew him was aware of how much he loved building and flying airplanes. Thank you to all of you for preserving his memory by putting his name on the EAA Memorial Wall.

JOANNE YELICH AND FAMILY

YELICH FAMILY TOOL SALE

Joanne Yelich would like to invite all Chapter 43 members to an Open Shop/Tool Sale at her place near Livermore CO on one of the weekends in October. We're still working on the exact date and time; she wanted to give the chapter a heads up for the sale. A list of the tools and equipment was published in the newsletter several months ago, and most of it is still available. Joanne is preparing to move out of state and needs to find a new home for Mark's tools, and you will most likely find some really nice tools at bargain prices. Joanne's son-in-law, Josh, will be barbecuing gourmet burgers for those who attend! Please call Joanne for directions at 970-221-3766, or just use MapQuest.com which does a good job of providing directions and a map.

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Dave Bieseemeier, continued from page 1

I did have the best job of all my working years, though, working on some really interesting hardware – jet engines affixed to B-52's, KC-135's, but mostly working on UH-1F “Huey” helicopter engines. Those engines were T-58s made by GE and it was interesting to later see them showing up on civilian Kit Planes like the Maverick Jet, converted from Turbo shaft to Turbo-jet. I married my high school sweet heart (Lyne) shortly after being assigned to Minot, which made the winters much more bearable!

After laboring for Uncle Sam, I went to Colorado Aero Tech in Broomfield and made off with an A&P certificate. A year was spent working at Denver Beechcraft at the old Stapleton Airport and I found myself slowly going broke, in spite of working a second job. When I heard that Coors was hiring (1973), I made for Golden post-haste, was hired, and worked there for nearly thirty years as a machinist/toolmaker. (I had gone back to school and received an Associate Degree in Machine Shop.) It was while I was going to school part time that I decided to build the Sidewinder. I picked it mostly because I thought it really looked neat! I had no idea how it flew, or anything about the designer. What the heck, the plans were only \$125 in 1976 and I thought I could build one for a few thousand dollars. I had no place to build an airplane, though, so I built a one car garage from a kit by Hugh M. Woods. Remember them? Oh yeah, I got my Private Pilot's certificate in 1976.

The G.I. Bill helped pay for the materials for the Sidewinder. OK, I admit I was a triple dipper - the G.I. Bill, Colorado Veterans Assistance, and Coors paid for my tuition. It was great, except for having to work the night shift at Coors! I also was allowed to machine all the landing gear parts at school for extra credit after I whipped out the assigned work.

Lyne helped with a lot of the riveting on the wings and fuselage during the build phase. She ran the gun and I held the bucking bar. Talk about trust in a marriage! I doubt that she would call it fun, but she did a really fine job!

The Sidewinder has been flying since January, 1981, and has been from coast to coast, flown in four AirVenture Cup Races, one Copperstate Dash air race, and one R.A.C.E. (Rutan canard group air race). It's not amazingly fast, but has done respectably well, with a second and a third place in class. It is also not very roomy – downright cramped with two people aboard. It was definitely designed for the smaller pilot. But what it lacks in room, it makes up for in pure fun! I've had a ball flying it for over 26 years and 1400 hours.

My most valued memories are of my two children growing up and all of the friends I've made through aviation and the EAA. We have belonged to several EAA chapters over the years, but Chapter 43 was our first, and we have been members since 1976. Chapter offices and positions held in one chapter or the other have been vice president, secretary, newsletter editor, and tech counselor.

HARTLEY'S FIRST LAW

I don't know who Hartley was, but here's a little ditty to remember the next time you feel like buzzing the runway at a fly-in. Hartley's First Law states that *“the probability of someone watching you is proportional to the stupidity of your action.”*

HAUSER KITFOX FOR SALE

We built a Kitfox in the late nineties and it has been in our hanger in Boulder. We want to sell it because we live over seas for half the year and when we are here in Boulder, we are often traveling, thus not flying the Kitfox. The details are on our web page listed below.

<http://www.wefly4fun.com/Kitfox-01.htm>

Copperstate Regional Fly-in Casa Grande AZ, (KCGZ) October 25 -28, 2007

Hours: Thursday thru Saturday - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday - 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Copperstate Aviation Radio Frequencies (Note temporary control tower):

ATIS 132.7

Copperstate Arrival 126.4

Copperstate Tower 119.8

Copperstate Ground 121.05

Helicopter Ops 128.4

Parking Control 122.7

Visit the website at <http://www.copperstate.org/>

National Radial Engine Exhibition

Akron CO (AKO)

September 8, 2007

Featuring "Sentimental Journey" B-17

Fort Scott Airport Days & Air Show

September 8th, Fort Scott Kansas (KFSK)

Free Breakfast for pilots who fly in. 620-223-5490

Best Little Airshow in New Mexico

Wednesday(!), September 19th

Tucumcari, New Mexico (TCC)

505-461-3229 for info

EAA Mile High Chapter 43

Chapter Officers

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Vice President	Greg Hall	303-424-4216
Vice President	Stan Specht	303-232-8474
Secretary	Bob Young	303-466-6902
Treasurer	Lynn Miller	303-666-8233

Volunteer Officers

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

FIRST CLASS



NEXT MEETING - SEPTEMBER 8, 2007, 7:00 PM, "METRO" AIRPORT