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Table of Contents

Art Schwarz Bio

Feb. Meeting
Minutes

Feb. 24th. Board
Meeting

50th. Anniversary

Workshops

Airport Quiz

Advertisers

Membership
Application

March Program

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EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

Founded May 1958

MILE HIGH FLYER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 43

EAA CHAPTER 43 50TH. ANNIVERSARY 1958-2008

How I became involved with Airplanes.

By Art Schwarz

My love of flying started when I was just a kid, and has brought adventure to my life ever since. My father worked for Eastern Airlines almost from its beginning. I remember him telling me stories of Eddie Rickenbacker who was president of the company back then, and about Arthur Godfrey who would bring his personal DC-3 in every year for maintenance at Eastern Airlines in Miami. Our family flew on vacations many years to the Boston area. The plane I remember the best was the Lockheed Constellation. Dad had several friends who were stewards on the flights and they would allow us in the rear of the plane where there was a large curved couch that filled the back end. It made me feel quite important, as a young man. The Lockheed Electra was another favorite to fly in. I believe that these early experiences fueled my imagination to someday become a pilot! When I was a senior in high school, in 1967, my mother bought my first hour of flight instruction at Opa Locka airport in Florida.

I took about 6 hours of instruction with 2 different instructors.

I was unable to continue due to finances, and realized that flying would have to wait until later in my life. In 1968 I joined the Air Force Reserves and stayed in for 6 years. I started dating Karen in 1969, married the following year, and had two children Michele and Brian.

In 1979, I was finally in a position to continue my instruction in Clearwater, Florida. After 4 months and 41 hours total time, I had my private license. For the first year or so I rented my instructor's tomahawk. I enjoyed flying the low wing airplane.

I had a good friend that owned a Cherokee 140 and then a Cherokee 6, which we flew all over Central Florida.

Our 1981 trip to Oshkosh in his Cherokee 6, was my introduction to home built airplanes. 11 years later in 1992 I finally sent for my kit plane, an RV-6A. It took 2 ½ years to build. I had no idea that God's plan with my aviation hobby would take me across the world, just 2 years later. Van's newsletter ran an ad looking for experienced builders who would like to build planes in Nigeria. After much prayer and consulting with a good friend, we both submitted our resumes. Weeks later, we were on our way to Africa! The agreement was for our company A.I.E.P. to build 60 aircraft to be used as primary trainers for the Nigerian Air force. The plane was a modified version of the RV-6A. They were equipped with 180 HP Engines w/ Constant speed props, and full IFR. When I arrived they

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were completing plane #7. After 16 months, we proudly delivered # 60. There were about 12 Americans there, with a variety of backgrounds. My expertise was in electronics, so I ran the avionics shop. The main reason for the contract was to instruct the Nigerians to assemble the plane, in the hope of having them continue with other manufacturing jobs when the planes were completed.

While we were in Africa we had the use of 2 company demonstrators that we had also built. We were encouraged to fly those planes to build time on them, and gladly took advantage of the offer whenever we had free time. I logged about 160 hours across Nigeria. More than half of my hours were flown in close formation. We would alternate who would fly lead and wing.

When I returned to the states my plane was ready for paint.

I did my final assembly and first flight in 1996. Two years later, we moved to Colorado. Then because of financial needs I had to sell the plane in November 1999. It was sold to a partnership of Jean-Pierre, Ruby , and Chris Pratt. They later sold their share of the plane to other owners.

With my experience from Africa, I volunteered to become a EAA Technical Counselor specializing in RV's. I have made more than 49 visits to builders and their aircraft under construction since 1996. Back in March 2006 I made my initial visit to Scott Serani to monitor the progress of his RV-10 in the garage.

I stayed involved with Scott and Eric and their 10. I helped with final assembly and the test flights. We became good friends back then and have become partners in building and flying since. I am thankful to God for guiding this exciting path, as I have enjoyed aviation all my life.

Art Schwarz

RV-6A Modified Trainers for the Nigerian Air Force.



Minutes of Chapter 43 Meeting Feb. 9, 2008

Our Vice President, *Stan Specht*, called the meeting to order at 7:03PM. Our President, *Greg Hall*, was absent for the meeting. (Being in Hawaii with his wife for their anniversary was accepted as a good excuse).

Stan welcomed everyone and announced that the chapter is having their 50th anniversary this year. *Dean Cochran*, who was present, was a Vice-President when the chapter formed.

The minutes for the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

Note: The actual meeting was our annual banquet, but there were board meeting minutes in the newsletter.

New Members: *Chris Anderson* and *Angela Booth* became new chapter members. *Angela* mentioned also that she just recently purchased a C-170.

Visitors: *Roger Standard* brought *Tayauba* and *Stephen BenMajed* to the meeting. *Roger* wants to sponsor *Tayouba* to the Air Academy.

Treasurer Report: Our Treasurer, *Lynn Miller*, gave the balance of our account. Our payouts were for the banquet and chapter insurance and dues. Income from member dues. *Lynn* and his wife were also recognized for the great job they did with the banquet. Over 100 showed up.

Safety Report: Our Safety Officer, *John Evens*, passed around pictures of a Malibu that lost its prop and landed at Aspen. He mentioned that if you have to make a power off landing to know the glide range of your aircraft. *John* also reemphasized the importance of carrying a canopy breaking tool in the aircraft. *Jim Loyd* related a story from the 80's as a passenger in a T-18. He and the builder/pilot were headed for Oshkosh. They were coming in for a landing on a small grass strip airport in northern Ohio. The approach was high and hot. Upon touchdown, the plastic brake line broke. With no brakes, the plane passed the end of the runway, through a fence, over a road and into a field and flipped over. They both managed to exit the broken canopy. The roll bar was intact, but the supporting structure failed. *Jim* posed the question: What do you do when a pilot scares you with improper flying operations?

Trip Reports: *Kyle Heckman* went to Utah in a Superstar 700.

Meeting Minutes Continued

Progress Reports: *Georg Grell* is looking for an engine for his Skybolt. *Scott Serani* has brakes and wheels finished on the Champ and it's about ready to have the skin applied.

Don Smith ordered the empennage for a Rans S-19.

Chad Ambrosius will be taking delivery of the tail section of a Zenith 701.

Old Business: *Stan* had some service awards to hand out, but the recipients were not present for the meeting.

Board Meeting: A regular member of this organization (Chapter 43) also needs to be a member of the EAA Inc. in Oshkosh. The purpose of this is to be under their umbrella for insurance coverage at our events. Note: See By-Laws

Lynn Miller is putting a scholarship application together for Air Camp, tech. training or possibly up to \$1500 toward flight lessons up to solo.

Steve Beach talked about "Snowbusters". Chapter 43 took over the name and duties of the pancake breakfast and flyin. It will be on April 5th. A sign-up sheet was passed around and the event will also be listed on the EAA website.

After the break, *Kyle Hickman* brought in some pictures of the overhaul process of the engine in his Luscombe. Thanks for a great program, *Kyle*. It's time to get that plane up and flying.

CHAPTER 43 50th. YEAR ANNIVERSARY

This year our chapter will be celebrating 50 years in existence. We will be compiling information from members to put in an article for Sport Pilot. If you can provide any items of interest such as special events, trips, accomplishments, pictures, outstanding members, etc. please contact Bob Young. Joe Jones is also working on some artwork.

WORKSHOP INTEREST

The chapter would like to tap into the many talents of our chapter and possibly other local chapters. We would like to generate interest in putting on a workshop event. We will need a place to have it (hanger), a team of people to put on training and demonstrations of welding, fabric, electric wiring, weight & balance, wood working, riveting, etc. This topic will be brought up at the next chapter meeting. We would like to see a large participation and generate some interest for the general public. Please volunteer if you have talents in these listed areas or advertising and media contacts.

Can you identify these two Colorado airports?



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Jason Hurd, who is 2nd generation Tri-County personnel is now running a full service FBO, including flight training, full line maintenance, fuel and tie downs. He's both A&P and IA. Let's stop by and say hello. He is, after all, EAA friendly.

Board Meeting February 24, 2008

Members present: *Greg Hall, Brian Cabebe, Bill & Mary Mitchell, Lynn Miller, John Reuterskiold, Steve Beach, Bob Young, Stan Specht, and Kyle Heckman.*

Lynn Miller started with the banking report. He and *Greg* transferred the signature cards from *Roger* to *Greg*. *Lynn* also was in contact with the man at Stich"N"Time about polo shirts for the chapter. There will be a mockup made for our next meeting with the chapter logo and possibly something about our 50th. anniversary on it.

John Reuterskiold will cut off the membership dues at the end of March for the purpose of being listed in the 2008 roster.

Steve Beach brought up the topic of the moon challenge. Google will sponsor the LunarX-Prize. A race to the moon by a privately funded company. So far they have had 537 registrations from 53 countries. Micro-Space based in Colorado will compete. Someone might check with them for a program for our chapter.

Greg asked *Steve* for any info on EAA National insurance coverage issues. Much discussion followed about what group would cover the insurance needs of the different events. i.e. Chapter events, workshops, Young Eagle events, Erie days and the Regional. Some items will be brought up at the next chapter meeting and others will be on a wait and see basis.

Greg suggested that we go in with other chapters and do our own workshops on welding, fabric, wood working, weight & balance, riveting, wiring, etc. Interest levels will be evaluated at the next meeting.

Kyle brought up plenty of items for programs. They would include project visits, video on Idaho bush flying, Red Line Aviation on prop balancing, *Brian Cabebe* on wiring, *Brent Olson* on electronics and a Barnstorming program.

Bob Young brought up the subject of updating our chapter website. *Bruce Handley* will be contacted to make the corrections.

Lynn Miller passed around a draft of a scholarship application for review. Some discussion followed to modify certain areas and these will be corrected.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after all the treats were consumed. Thanks to *Lynn* and *Pat Miller* for hosting the meeting.

Airports

Left: Hayden—HDN Yampa Valley Regional

Right: Aspen—ASE Pitkin Co. Sardy Field

**Last month to pay your dues and still be listed in the roster.
Remember to keep your membership with EAA National current.**

2008 Membership Information

(Needed for 2008 Roster Chapter documents, mailing info at bottom)

Even if nothing has changed from last year, please fill out, and we particularly need EAA # and Renewal date.

DATE: _____

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Street: _____

National EAA Membership #: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Membership Renewal Date: _____

Home Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

**E-Mail Address: _____

****We can now send you our monthly newsletter on E-Mail. It will come to you in a form that has a brief message and a link to our website, where you can then bring the newsletter up in color in PDF form. We also send out periodic news items by e-mail. The newsletter will be sent to you automatically this way, if you have an E-mail address.**

AIRCRAFT INFORMATION:

Note: Category - Standard, Experimental, Ultralight, WarBird, etc.

Status: ----Built, Building, Restoring, Considering, etc

<u>Make, Model</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>Since (Yr)</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Based At</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE INVOLVED DURING 2008 ?

Would you?

- Run for a Chapter Officer Post For 2008? -----Yes ___ No ___
 - Arrange, Or Be, The Program For One Of Our Meetings? ----- Yes ___ No ___
 - Host A Chapter Meeting At Your Project?----- Yes ___ No ___
 - Volunteer To Serve On the Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In Planning Committee? -----Yes ___ No ___
 - Volunteer For The 30th (2008) Annual Rocky Mountain EAA Regional fly-In?-----Yes ___ No ___
 - Participate in Young Eagles functions, either pilot or volunteer?-----Yes ___ No ___
- Pilot _____ Volunteer _____

**Annual Dues for 2008 are \$20.00. Please make check payable to EAA Chapter 43, and mail to :
Lynn Miller, 3015 Piper Drive South, Erie CO 80516**

EAA Mile High Chapter 43

Chapter Officers

President	Greg Hall	303-424-4216
Vice President	Stan Specht	303-232-8474
Vice President	Kyle Heckman	303-666-6485
Secretary	Bob Young	303-466-6902
Treasurer	Lynn Miller	303-666-8233

Volunteer Officers

Technical Counselor	Bob Green	303-659-5829
Technical Counselor	Dave Bieseimeier	720-480-5825
Technical Counselor	Pat Claar	303-940-3530
Technical Counselor	Art Schwarz	303-421-2930
Flight Advisor	Bill Mitchell	303-427-4025
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Web Master	Bruce Handley	303-494-5412
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



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