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Contact the
editor: (*You can
do this!*)

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EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43

Founded 1957

MILE HIGH FLYER

The Official Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 43

DONNY RAY'S BIG ADVENTURE

By Lon Huss and Monty Haskel.

The following is a true story that is too good to keep to myself; the names have been changed to those of my two other friends.

I met Donny Ray when I stopped off to meet the proud new owner of the Long Eze that had just moved in at the airport. Enthusiasm gushed from every word as he told me how he'd just gotten his Private Ticket so he could buy and fly one of "these things". I was about a year away from finishing my EZ so we had a lot to talk about and soon became good friends. By the time mine was ready to fly Donny Ray was putting a LOT of miles on his Long and was compiling a list of cool airports from which you could hike to good fishing.

A couple'a years ago Donny Ray took the EZ up to Montana to visit his buddy JD for some "Fly Fishing". Well the fish weren't bitin' and the weather was chilly and Flight Service said the weather would be great in Colorado so off they went that very afternoon. On the way they debated the merits of several of Donny Rays "fly fishing" spots and decided that for spectacular scenery, minimal hiking and great fishing, Telluride, Colorado was it.

If Telluride is anything it's spectacular. Roughly forty air miles south of Montrose, Telluride is hidden up in the San Juan mountains in a box canyon five miles wide and a mile deep. The scenery is indeed spectacular with snow capped four-teens sitting atop nearly vertical canyon walls. The fishing in the San Miguel river a half mile from the airport is equally spectacular.

The runway at Telluride airport sits on a step in the north side of the canyon at about 9100 ft MSL. To clear the terrain on each side of the airport the pattern altitude is 10,500 ft MSL! Consideration for the extreme summer density altitude prompted the powers that be to create perhaps my favorite runway. At 6900 ft long and 100 ft wide Telluride slopes about 50 feet downhill from each end to a low spot in the middle. This stroke of genius allows you get a 3500 ft DOWN-HILL take-off run. Should you get to the middle and chicken out, you get 3500 ft of UPHILL runway to stop.

Continued on page 2.

DECEMBER MEETING: December 13th, 6:00 PM. In celebration of the 100th anniversary of Powered Flight, members are asked to participate in this month's program by sharing their most memorable flying experiences. Slides, pictures and computer slides welcome. Call Pres. Patti at 303-673-0021 with your A.V. requirements. We'll meet at the **Erie Municipal Airport FBO, upstairs meeting room.** Take CO highway 7 to the Erie Municipal Airport, park in lot.

Continued from page 1.

From short final the airport looks like a huge aircraft carrier that's cracked and sagging in the middle. With such dramatic surroundings Telluride airport is obviously closed at sunset.

As usual our boys got a bit of a late start, and also as usual the wind kicked up a little in the afternoon but hey; Montrose is wide open and only forty miles away.

"Lets go to Telluride and check it out, if it looks too dark and scary we can always go back to Montrose and come over in the morning" sez JD. Donny Ray looks at the fuel situation and it looks ok- well maybe a little squeaky. Donny Ray sez:" Here's the deal: if we stop in Montrose for gas we'll have to stop for the night. If we go on we'll hit Telluride just about dark when they close. It'll probably work out though cause I've been in there a bunch, and besides it's a beautiful clear night. If we decide to come back we can just about GLIDE to Montrose in this thing!"

Make no mistake: flying the San Juan mountains on a breathtaking September evening is an experience you won't soon forget. Montrose turned their beacon on as the EZ purred by. Slick stuff this Long Eze travel, I wonder what the rich folks are doin' tonight?

The standard northern approach involves sliding west a little and then turning left at the canyon mouth for a long final. I usually have trouble getting down to the approach because it just doesn't feel good descending into a box canyon until the runway is in sight. It'd been quite a long day and now it was full on dark and time to sneak this thing down and call it a night. It took the speed brake AND both rudders to get down. The EZ seemed to float, float, float and then roll, roll, roll forever on that murky downhill half. Donny Ray graduated from "them-who-will" to "them-who-have" with that heart stopping KA-WHAM as the EZ ground to an abrupt halt with the nose gear up!

"Well that could'a gone better" sez Donny Ray, half hysterical with shock and relief. "I don't think so" sez JD in a kind'a funny voice: "look" pointing his flashlight down the runway.

Fifty yards dead ahead were 300 elk.

Y'all be careful out there! Ion Huss.

Submitted by Monty Haskel. Thanks Monty!

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NOVEMBER MINUTES AND AUCTION

11-08-03 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order in Cliff & Patti's hangar @ 18:12 after everybody had their plates full from the potluck.

RMRFI Award

Daryl Cinquanta presented Steve Beach with a plaque for his efforts in making the 2003 Regional Fly In a success.

Treasurers report

Bob Wilson was absent due to an accident at home that has his left ankle in a cast. Get well soon Bob!

The account balance is \$15215.03

Auctioneer Bill Mitchell with Cliff Begnaud.

Chapter Elections

If you would like to nominate or know of somebody that would like to be nominated for a chapter position, contact any of the chapter officers.

Rodger Newman offered to relieve Herrill Davenport of his many years of supplying the coffee and beverages at the chapter meetings. Thanks Rodger!! And a BIGTHANK YOU to Herrill!!! The chapter secretary position is open. If you attend most of the meetings and can write, this little task is perfect for you!

Progress Reports

Bill Mitchell said Greg in Montana has finished his RV and would like some dual. Contact Bill for details.

Trip Reports

Chuck Garten reported on the trip to South Carolina in the RV6. Chuck said it was a great two week trip with only one weather delay at Connie's folks in Pennsylvania.

Minutes continued on page 4.

Volunteer with Marketing Experience Needed

The Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In appears to be headed to the Front Range Airport in 2004. With the new venue, increase in usable space and

location convenient to metro-Denver, we realize we have a need for improved marketing.

We are looking for anyone with an interest in aviation and knowledge of marketing to help set up and coordinate a marketing strategy for the Fly-In. If interested, please contact Jim Cimiluca, Chairman, at jimc@rmrfi.org.

For more information now and in the future about the RMRFI, check our web site at rmrfi.org.

SUMMIT MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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303-466-8730 (Appointments)
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720-635-4194 (Voice)
303-256-0678 (Fax)

NOVEMBER MINUTES, CONTINUED.

Lothar Klingmueller reported that the RV has accumulated over 340 hours in 2 years. He also said that there was some hurricane activity in Halifax, Nova Scotia that allowed them to explore the area a bit longer than planned.

Other Business

Pres. Patti asked the Veterans that were present to stand. The Veterans were well represented in Ch43 and were thanked for their service and the preservation of our valued freedom.

Michael Maya Charles relayed a noise concern from the nearby Johnson neighborhood.

Send your pictures for the 2004 chapter calendar to Pres. Patti.

Brad Davenport Memorial

Gene Horsman presented the 5th annual Brad Davenport Memorial Trophy to George Hayes for the Pietenpol.

Program: the annual Chapter auction and pot luck dinner. Thanks to Cliff & Patti for hosting the meeting in their hangar, and to Bill Mitchell for being our auctioneer! Great food and bargains galore!

HELP WANTED!

Chapter 43 members to get involved! This is your chance to make a difference in your Chapter. A rare opportunity presently exists for highly motivated individuals to tackle the fun and rewarding positions of Secretary and also newsletter editor. Al Manley would like someone to take over as Chapter Secretary, and Dave Bieseimeier would like a break from the editor spot. The same individual can fulfill both positions (which actually works quite well) and training and computer software is available for the new editor. Call **John Evens**, Chapter 43 nomination committee chairman at **303-420-2724**, to find out how you can help Chapter 43 in the coming year.

FLY-OUT FOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF FLIGHT!

Join Chapter 43 members in celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Flight on Wednesday, December 17th. We will meet at the Erie/Tri-County Airport terminal at 8:00 am for a briefing before departing the airport en mass at 8:35 am. We'll fly out for breakfast to Greeley, or an airport of your choice, and reflect on the accomplishments of flight over the past 100 years.

Please email Stan Specht at sourdostan@aol.com if you plan to participate. Indicate if you have an extra seat available or if you wish to come along but don't have a ride. Stan will attempt to match you up for this historic celebration. Many of us will conclude the flight with another stop at Jeffco Airport for the usual Wednesday noon lunch bunch. As always, use good pilot judgment if the weather is uncooperative. Hope to see you there!!!

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REFLECTIONS ON 2003

By President Patti Begnaud

Reflections.....

As the year winds down, I wanted to take this time (and space) to reflect on what I consider to have been a successful year for the club.

Young Eagle rallies: I wish to thank all of the gracious pilots and volunteers who participated in and organized the club's Young Eagle events this year. Although the number of rallies was small (around 9), the tally of youngsters flown was quite impressive.

To name a few....Erie Town Faire - - - 97, Rocky Mountain Regional - - - 80,
Tuskegee Airmen - - - 130 (accomplished with 6 Pilots and on a WEEKDAY)

B-17 Visit: Although dampened by the economy and the weather, the biannual visit by the EAA's Aluminum Overcast was a financial success for the club. The club raised approximately \$7000 from the visit. Many thanks go to Mark Graf and Rick Domenico for leading this effort and very special kudos to all of the hardworking volunteers that made this event successful.

Rocky Mountain Regional: The Regional turn-out and take may have been less than expected, another victim of the waning economy and lack of media attention (not for lack of effort on the part of the EAA organizers). However, any aviation event that can educate and entertain the general public on GA and experimental aircraft (and raise needed \$) is a great success in my book. Thanks to all EAAers and special thanks to Steve Beach for his tireless efforts!

While these events that the club sponsored were more visible, personal successes (fuselage on the gear, first flights, first solos) of club member and friends deserve a round of applause and "pats on the back". Congrats to everyone.

THE YEAR IS NOT OVER YET!

Please come and participate in this month's program (December 13th). Reflect on your memorable flying experiences and share these with the group. Slides, pictures and computer slides welcome. Please call Patti Lee-Begnaud (303-673-0021) with A-V requirements.

FOR SALE

LYCOMING O-320-C2A, S/N L-1710-39. This engine has zero time since over haul. It was rebuilt by Colorado Aero Tech way back in 1972 and has been stored in dry conditions since then. It still has 7/16" exhaust valves installed. Asking \$8000 or best offer.

RV-4 WING AND TAIL KIT FOR SALE. The empanage is finished, one wing is about 80% completed and the second wing is partially completed. Asking...?

Call Cree Fetterman at 303-665-9589 or contact by e-mail at creefetterman@hotmail.com.

EAA Mile High Chapter 43

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Vice President	Stan Specht	303-232-8474
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Mile High Flyer
 EAA Mile High Chapter 43
 Gene Horsman
 Data Base Editor
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FIRST CLASS



THIS MONTH'S MEETING:
 Saturday, December 13th, 6:00PM. at Erie Airport. Info inside