

SKYWRITINGS

EAA Chapter 439
Central U.P. of Michigan

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Home of the Yoopers



The Prez Sez!

Tom Sullivan

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We are half way through March and on the downhill side of winter. Other than a lot of snow, it has been a fairly decent winter. Our last meeting, held at my hangar, had a reasonable turn out, although still not enough members to hold our Annual Meeting & Elections. We were able to discuss attractions for our 20th Annual Ford Airport Day and several options were tossed out. One, being a Huey Helicopter from the 1960's, that we looked into once before, but Pete D. found it has tripled in price since David Pashihow and I looked into it. I solicited interest and cost for the DC-3 that was just highlighted in the most recent AOPA Pilot Magazine. The story on the initial purchase and subsequent restoration was very inspiring. I received a quote and it looks a bit above what I think we should spend but that was predicated on the distance from Pennsylvania to Ford Airport. It was certainly reasonable, considering the fuel and oil cost plus rooms and vehicles that we customarily see for our appearance crews. Maxine suggested the four place helicopter for public rides so I reached out to them as well. It would still be nice to get some kind of a war bird locked in to enhance our Veterans Tribute on Friday.

During the solicitation of options and pricing from the DC-3, I wanted to link our website and Facebook accounts for the people we were requesting from to see we are a viable chapter. I found the website was behind on newsletters but, more so, we ALL have been lax in getting the website more interesting and informative. We have NOTHING under the menu tab "Chapter Photos". Between chapter hangar photos and past activities, we should be able to get that page a lot more filled. Under the Members Aircraft we only have a couple plane pictures; Lloyd's Kitfox and Scott's Kolb. The contacts page needs updating and almost every page could have more info on it. I communicated with Mike on the newsletters getting posted, but "WE" (all of us) need to make a serious effort making this website more interesting!!

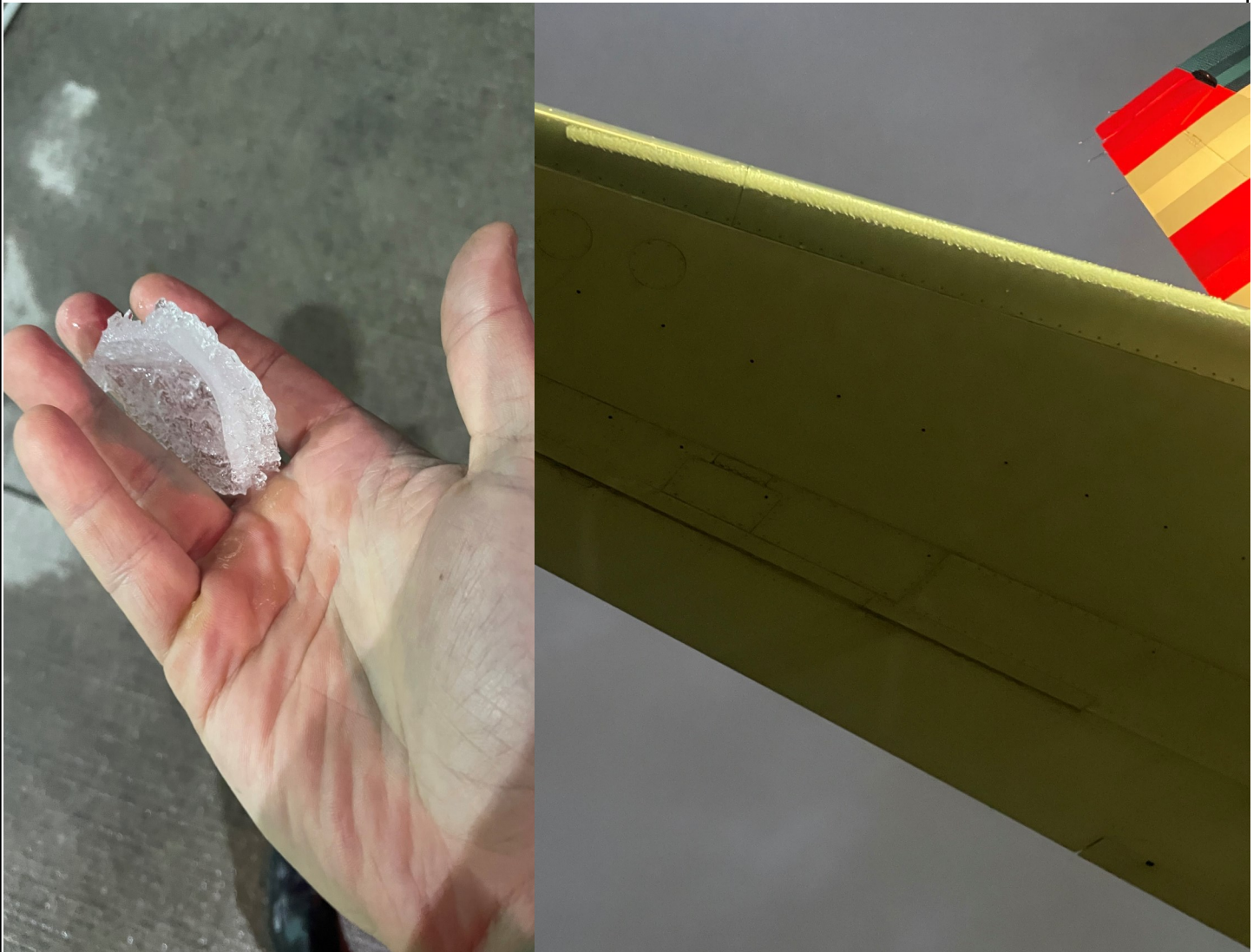
Bruce Varda called me recently and is willing to donate a pretty nice airplane tug to the Chapter. I will try to meet up with him soon to see if that would be a good addition to our hangar. I also talked with Scott Morin and we are in the scheduling queue for the water and sewer lines for the hangar as soon as the ground thaws. I contracted (and paid) Jacobetti Engineering for the drawings to install the plumbing and furnace in the two story area. I have not heard from him since the check was sent out in February but I was given the impression the design was complete and ready to send to Blagic's once he received the check. I will have to add that follow up item to my "Do List". I'm hoping we can make some reasonable progress on the hangar once the weather breaks. I have been in communication with Steve Phillip's son, Chris, on having the dedication of the hangar to Steve this summer; currently looking like late June. Chris will be traveling from Finland and other family members will be coming from the Southeast, Kansas City and Seattle, at the least. It would be nice to have as much completed as possible before we have his family and friends attend that dedication!

I will be heading out shortly for my last Florida visit, and hopefully hitting Sun & Fun while I am down there. We won't be looking at a meeting until about mid-April, and hopefully we can get a strong enough attendance to hold our annual meeting. Stay warm and enjoy the last of winter over the next few weeks.

Tom Sullivan

Editor's Section

Hello everyone hope everyone is doing well! Looks like we are getting close to warmer temperatures and sunny days! For those of you that fly in the system, meaning file an IFR flight plan we still have to be careful of icing and rapidly changing conditions. A few pictures I took on a post flight while at work. Although it's a larger aircraft the icing conditions still require the discipline and respect, just as a small GA aircraft does. Hopefully in the next few weeks holding ice in my hand and getting de-iced will be non-existent until next winter. Until next time –Bruce



A Lancair Prop Jet At Spruce Creek



Tom was a safety pilot in this Lancair Evolution and shot 6 approaches over 1.5 hours in heavy traffic in the Daytona Beach area (home of Embry Riddle Flight School).





Transit airplanes in and out of Spruce Creek



A few neat bikes in Florida that Tom saw



EAA Webinars

Register at: Webinars <https://eaa.org/eaa/news-and-publications/eaa-webinars>

All webinars are 7 pm CDT unless otherwise noted

03/16/23	EAA Learn to Fly Week	David Leiting
03/21/23	EAA Chapters Insurance & Risk Management	
03/29/23*	Airborne Medical Emergencies: How to Act as PIC	Ken Solosky
04/04/23*	Task-Based Phase I Flight Testing	Tom Charpentier
04/19/23*	VNAV and Visual Approaches: Helpful or Hidden	Gary Reeves

* Qualifies for FAA Wings credit.

** Qualifies for FAA Wings and AMT credit.

Did you miss a webinar? Here's the webpage so you can watch the recording <https://www.eaa.org/Videos/Webinars>



The American Airlines ramp in the evening at JFK Airport

Valen saw me putting a safety vest into my flight bag as I packed for work, and wanted to put it on (the one I wear when I do pre-flights and post-flights.) He also wanted to put hotel cards that he found in my bag into the pouch of the vest. Can you find the hotel cards?



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Dues are \$15.00 a year (\$25 for mailed newsletter)! From August 1st Please send them to above address.
Website: <http://chapters.eaa.org/aaa439>.