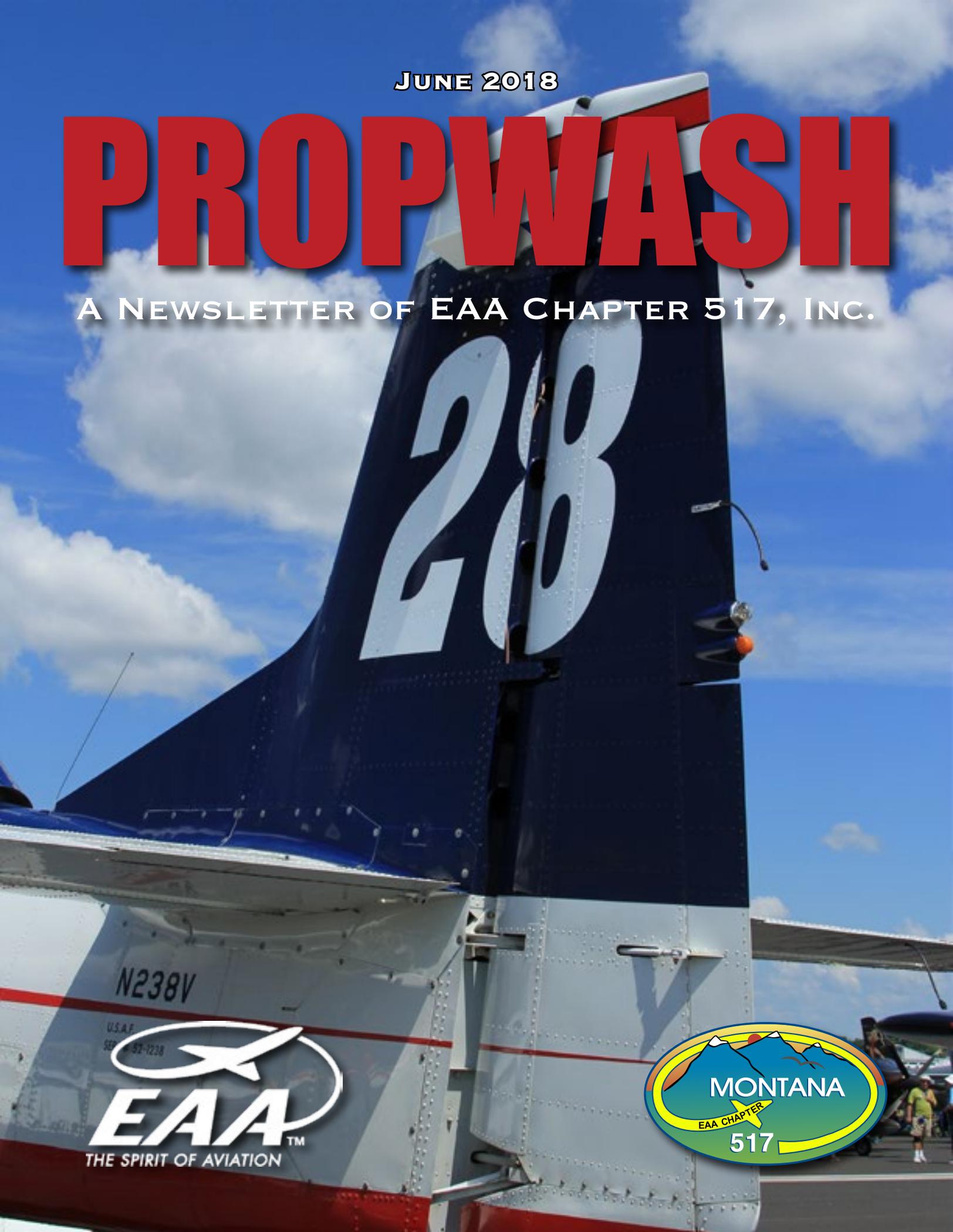


JUNE 2018

PROPWASH

A NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 517, INC.



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THE SPIRIT OF AVIATION



From the chapter president



Steve Rossiter

June will be an eventful month for Missoula and EAA Chapter 517. The elephant in the room is the AOPA Fly-In on June 15 and 16. We will have our first Saturday Breakfast on June 2 and the longest day of the year is June 21. It is difficult to wrap our minds around the longest day of the year when we look around and still see as much snow as there is in the mountains around Missoula.

Last month I penned an article about a possible name change for Chapter 517. Subsequently, I sent out a survey of members to see where the membership stood on a possible name change. At the May meeting, I discovered that some of our members were under the impression that this change meant we would be abandoning our EAA Chapter 517 identity. My bad! I now see that I didn't clearly explain that we would remain an EAA chapter and be simply refocusing the emphasis in a new direction. I sincerely apologize for that error. There are too many reasons why we would not ever want to abandon our EAA name and affiliation.

The result of the polling I did, with the 87 members who are on



the e-mail list, was that 16 of the 19 replies favored the name change concept. The top vote getter was Western Montana Flyers with a tie for second place between Five Valleys Flyers, Five Valleys Sport and Recreational Flyers, and No Name Change. At our May 21 meeting, 7 of the 10 members present favored the name change. The vote there was for the name Five Valleys Flyers with the subtitle EAA Chapter 517, Inc. If we take this action we would simply file with the State of Montana a "Doing Business As" (DBA).

This is also a good opportunity for me to thank John Barba for getting the materials donated to complete the interior painting of the hangar walls. More than that is the donation of his personal time to give our hangar walls an incredibly professional paint

job. John spent many hours re-taping, sanding, more sanding and painting these walls. We now have a living room quality finish on our hangar walls. Thank you, John Barba!

Lastly, we need your help to provide man hours for parking cars at the AOPA event. This is your opportunity to help Chapter 517 earn several thousand dollars to help pay for our various programs and hangar. You can contact Burt Caldwell at: (260) 438-8137. If we don't hear from you, please expect to hear from us. Please volunteer to help and support your chapter.

Lastly, because of the AOPA event, there will be no June Movie Night.

As always, blues skies and tailwinds.

Steve

Chapter hosts pancake breakfasts

By Steve Rossiter

The May Pancake Breakfast was terrific. We had more than 10 airplanes parked on the ramp with two from Kalispell, one from Butte, and several from the Bitterroot.

The pancakes were great and the conversation was greater. We hope June will bring even more aircraft in.

Put **June 2** on your calendar for the **First Saturday in June Pancake Breakfast**. We will start serving pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage,

juice and coffee at 0800 and feed until 1000. We are inviting the whole MSO aviation community and other EAA Chapters, as well as the Ravalli County Pilots Association. We are asking for a \$5 per person donation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fly The Big Sky

We now have many new EAA Chapter 517 members. It is time again to talk about EAA Chapter 517's "Fly The Big Sky" specialty license plate. The Chapter initiated this program in 2006 and since then we receive a check from the state each month at the rate of \$20 per plate sold or renewed. This income has allowed the Chapter to provide more scholarships each year than any other organization in the state. Of course, this income also helps support such things as Young Eagles and other youth and adult education events.

It is our hope that each of our Chapter members has at least one "Fly The Big Sky" plate for the vehicles they own. It is wonderful when all the vehicles in one family are sporting this plate. All of us who "Fly The Big Sky" should be proud and brag about it on your vehicle license plate.

You don't have to wait until your normal license renewal cycle to get your "Fly The Big Sky" plate. You can go to your local county treasurer's office to get the plate. They will collect the fees and you will keep your normal renewal cycle. The state has a one-time fee above the \$20 they send the Chapter, so be aware.

So, if you don't have a plate, please help support the Chapter programs and get yours today. The more of these license plates that are on the road, the more aware the general public is about Montana general aviation. This is always a good thing.

For Sale

1 LightSpeed Thirty 3G headset and 1 LightSpeed 25XL headset. Buy one or both. MAKE OFFER. Call Judy Kline at 406-370-4727.

Dave Herzberg (email: ddh44@icloud.com) has the following 'like new' for sale:

Lightspeed Zulu 2 Bluetooth Headset \$700

Yaesu FTA-550L Li-Ion Handheld VHF Transceiver \$235

Has adapter to GA aircraft style plugs, good for radio backup or just listening.

Both are in almost new condition and only used a few times. Information for both is readily available on the internet. If you are interested, contact Dave directly.

Taxiway B-1

Since we moved into the new MSO hangar, we have had Taxiway B-1 pretty much to ourselves – "ourselves" meaning those of us operating from the East LZ Hangar Condominium complex. That is no longer the case. On March 24, FedEx began using their new facility across the taxiway from our hangars. It seems strange to have a big airplane parked on the new FedEx ramp. The FedEx complex was built with the idea that two airplanes will operate out of this facility. The upside is we will have something new to watch, which is OK with me.

EAA 517 Chapter Meeting Schedule

Since 2002, when EAA Chapter 517 purchased our Stevensville chapter hangar, the Chapter has run a schedule of meetings where we split our meeting locations and alternated monthly meetings in Stevensville at the hangar and in Missoula usually at the MSO Airport conference room. For more than a year, it has frustrated the Board of Directors and Missoula area members that the meeting participation by Bitterroot members in our meetings has been minimal. Often, even in Stevensville, 10 to 12 Missoula members would show up with only one Bitterroot member showing up. As a result, the EAA 517 Board of Directors has made the decision to suspend the alternate meeting location schedule at least for the remainder of 2018. If we can generate interest and a commitment to participate by our southern members, we can re-examine the issue at our annual meeting in October.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Aircraft Maintenance Shop at MSO

The East LZ Hangar Condominium Complex has a new owner in Unit 3 of the complex, that's the hangar closest to FedEx. Joe Featherly is opening an aircraft maintenance facility after running a successful automobile shop in Missoula for decades. His focus will be on light general aviation aircraft, which is kind of in Chapter 517's wheelhouse, as aircraft go. He is in the process of upgrading his hangar to best meet his needs, but will be open for business soon.

Other AOPA Fly In Chapter Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to the parking volunteers needed as mentioned in the Prez Sez column, we need a couple of members to man the Chapter exhibit booth to recruit new members, talk about Young Eagles, sell raffle tickets, and generally communicate with the aviation public. The hours for this are more humane than the opportunity below. Coverage is needed for Friday between 1200 hours and 1800 hours and Saturday between 0900 hours and 1500 hours. We need two people per three hour shift per day.

We also need a few more volunteers to conduct the pancake breakfast in the early mornings for the AOPA volunteers on Wednesday (0630 to 1030), Thursday 0630 to 1030), Friday (0500 to 1030), and Saturday with AOPA (0600 to 1000).

Your Chapter President acknowledges that it would be more fun to simply come to this event and enjoy being an attendee. However, the aviation community in Missoula accepted the roll as hosts for this event, so our Chapter membership, as part of the Missoula aviation community, will need to step up and help be a good host for our visitors from all over the United States. Let's give them a Montana welcome and make them glad they came for a visit.

Stevensville Hangar for Sale

The EAA Chapter 517, Inc. hangar is officially on the market again. The Board of Directors has decided to offer it for sale or the long term lease of the whole building. The Chapter is prepared to offer owner financing under certain circumstances. Details about the hangar are on the Chapter website. The asking price is \$165,000 keeping in mind that all offers will be considered.

Pancake breakfasts

June 2, 2018

8 AM to 10 AM

Pancake Breakfast

EAA Chapter 517 Hangar

Missoula Airport

www.eaa517.org

July 7, 2018

8 AM to 10 AM

Pancake Breakfast

EAA Chapter 517 Hangar

Missoula Airport

www.eaa517.org

August 4, 2018

8 AM to 10 AM

Pancake Breakfast

EAA Chapter 517 Hangar

Missoula Airport

www.eaa517.org

September 1, 2018

8 AM to 10 AM

Pancake Breakfast

EAA Chapter 517 Hangar

Missoula Airport

www.eaa517.org

October 6, 2018

8 AM to 10 AM

Pancake Breakfast

EAA Chapter 517 Hangar

Missoula Airport

www.eaa517.org

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BUILDER'S REPORT

Rutan

Ed Lovrien
Limo EZ – 50%

Sonex

Larye Parkins
Waix – 30%

Van's RV

John Barba
RV-6

Zenith

Duane Felstet
CH-750 75%

Builders, please send updates to the newsletter editor at cburson@gmail.com so this list can be kept current.



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E-4 Command Post headed to AirVenture



By EAA

For the first time ever, the United States Air Force Global Strike Command is bringing a Boeing E-4 Advanced Airborne Command Post to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh. The E-4 is a modified Boeing 747 used as a mobile command post for the National Command Authority. Each E-4 has more than a dozen external communications systems, giving those aboard the ability to run the country from the sky in case of a disaster.

E-4 Aircraft Commander Lt. Col. Mike Brazelton said many people confuse the E-4 with Air Force One, and that even he did not know much

about the E-4 until he began working with it.

“A lot of people don’t know about this plane,” Brazelton said. “In fact, when I applied to come here, I didn’t even know about it. For the public to see something like this at an airshow, I think, is pretty awesome.”

The Air Force has four E-4 aircraft, and at least one of them is on alert at all times. They are able to fly anywhere in the world, with the anywhere being Oshkosh during AirVenture this year. The huge airplane will fly three passes for the gathered crowd.

One of the E-4’s missions is ferrying the Secretary of Defense around the world, a job Brazelton

said ranks among the best moments for him in his time with the Air Force.

“Probably the coolest part of our job is we get to fly the Secretary of Defense whenever he goes overseas,” Brazelton said. “I’ve flown with Secretary [James] Mattis probably five times now, and in my 24 years in the Air Force that will probably go down as the highlight of my career.”

The trip over Oshkosh will be only the second time an E-4 has appeared at an air show in the last several years, making the historic flybys a signature Only in Oshkosh moment.

Twin Mustang restoration



By EAA

The restorers of a North American XP-82 Twin Mustang, one of the most unusual fighter/escort aircraft ever deployed by the U.S. military, are aiming to make EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2018 its first public appearance to celebrate completion of an arduous 10-year restoration project.

The restoration project in Douglas, Georgia, began after aircraft restorer Tom Reilly discovered the complete airframe on a farm in Ohio. Reilly then scoured the earth seeking engines, propellers, and a multitude of other XP-82 parts to continue the restoration.

“The interest and enthusiasm for

this restoration has been wonderful and gratifying,” said Reilly, who has chronicled the restoration process online. “There is no better place than Oshkosh to make the first public flights of this aircraft, which is why it is our intent to complete the restoration and testing so we can be a part of AirVenture 2018.”

The XP-82 restoration brings back a unique flying example of an aircraft designed late in World War II as a long-range fighter escort to accompany B-29 bombers for thousands of miles on missions over the Pacific Ocean. Based on the highly successful P-51 Mustang design, the XP-82 used twin fuselages and two specially designed Rolls-Royce, Packard-built Merlin

engines to supply the speed, range, and armament needed for the task. Fewer than 300 of the airplanes were produced as the P-82, with all but five scrapped in the years after the Korean War as the military moved to jet aircraft.

“It has been decades since people have seen this aircraft type fly anywhere,” said Rick Larsen, EAA’s vice president of communities and member programs, who coordinates AirVenture features and attractions. “The return of this historic aircraft to the sky is a tribute to the vision and perseverance of the restoration team, and it’s fitting that the group has AirVenture as a goal to fly this beauty before a huge, appreciative audience.”



EAA CHAPTER 517 CONTACTS

Mailing Address

PO Box 18264
Missoula, MT 59808

Chapter Headquarters

4197 Corporate Way
Missoula, MT 59808

Phone number

406 541-0517

President

Steve Rossiter
EAAChapter517@aol.com
406-529-1601

Treasurer

Roger Shaw
Roger@TheShawsOnline.us

PropWash Editor

Clint Burson
cburson@gmail.com
406-381-6440

Vice President

Jim Younkin
406-240-4024

Young Eagles

Ray Aten
406-721-0531

Website

Larye Parkins
larye@parkins.org
www.eaa517.org
360-426-1718

Secretary

Aaron Foster
archeryjunkyfoster@gmail.com

EAA Tech Counselor

Larry DePutte
406-544-9212