

Pike's Peak Flyer

The Voice of EAA 72

<http://eaa72.org>

August 2018

Chapter News—Let's Get Going!

Message from the President

Many thanks to **Rick Holland** and his Corvair powered Pietenpol, and his very interesting program at our July meeting. I had no idea the age of the Pietenpol design, or the fact that the original plane was designed around the Ford Model "A" engine. Also thanks to the Corvair Club for bringing a cut-away Corvair. The car had been T-boned in an accident so they just cut off the right side leaving the four wheels and the steering. The engine compartment had also been cut open so you could see the workings of a Corvair engine. The entire presentation was very informative. The Corvair engine seems like a very considerable option for many of the current sport planes being built today. Thanks again Rick. This month we fly, or for our wingless members, drive to Kelly Air Park and Visit Jamie Treat's Hangar and maybe another one or two. Plan on arriving at 10:00 AM and BBQ at noon. Jamie's hangar is on the south west corner of Kelly. His is the only house and hangar with green roofs.



Young Eagles will be on the 25th this month.

I really don't know if anyone reads the president message in the newsletter, but if you do, then you know that the chapter has had 11 new members join in the last two months. This is very exciting to me, thanks in a large part to our membership chairman this year and his arm twisting (breaking) tactics to sign up new members. Actually, I don't think that it has taken much, if any, arm twisting for these new members. I have had a chance to visit personally with a few of them and find it rather intimidating. Like so many of our existing members, these new members have so many talents, ideas and flying experiences, so far beyond my own, that it just leaves me in awe.

Our vice president (Scott Bengert) has been bending my ear since the first of the year about long term projects for the chapter and programs that will involve more of the members. At first, I really wasn't on board with long term projects because I tried to get one started a number of years ago during my last term as president and it failed. I guess it really didn't fail, it just never got started due to lack of interest. But, Scott is right with the programs that he wants to see. There are three. One is a build project, one is a flying club and the third is an EAA Chapter 72 home. As I started thinking about this, the way I see it is that all three are tied together. Within the last two months I have been approached by members wanting to do these very things. After visiting Oshkosh this year, one of our new members has returned excited about the flying club and sent an e-mail stating that he wants to head up a flying club. He says that he met many fine folks at Oshkosh and has returned with a lot more information than he expected. The club will need a plane. How? What kind? Fast, more efficient? So, when you hear from **Dana Rieman** about the club and you want to fly but don't own a plane, then listen up and jump on board.

When I read the EAA Sport Aviation magazine every month, there are always articles about interesting projects that talented members of other chapters have completed or have undertaken. Well, we have as much, if not more, talent in our chapter as any of these chapters have. Why can't we build a plane? It would be an award winner at Oshkosh! We already have planes on our field that are award winners. Several more that would be, it's just that they haven't been judged. I already know the first negative statement that will be made about this because it's what I wanted to do as president several years ago. I know that it takes a long time, it took me 30 years. But think about it. Would it really? Not if it was divided into several small projects that one individual may want to take on, or that a couple of men working together a few hours a week, could complete. Divided into enough projects it wouldn't take long at all. We have a new member that introduced himself at our membership meeting two or three months ago and stated that he is an A&P and wants to help or get involved with a project of some kind. Maybe this is it!

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Hopefully, if you read this or as you are reading it, you won't be thinking that your president has been enjoying too many beers at our membership meetings! The membership attendance at our meetings has increased this year and it's mostly because of the fact that we made the social hour longer and started the BBQ and adult refreshments. I learned right away, that this is a very social group and there is nothing better than to sit around on a pleasant evening with friends, a hamburger and a beer and talk about airplanes and flying. We could just as well be talking about things like, how is the project coming? Who is going to fly it to Oshkosh? What part are you building? Are you in the flying club? Beyond being a social group that love to wash good burgers down with good brew, we are an active chapter also capable of accomplishing anything we set our minds to.

All of these are well within our reach and Scott and I, as well as the rest of your chapter board hope that the chapter members agree. I learned years ago not to set your goals too low. But you already know that. Just look at the homebuilt airplanes on this airport. Any one of them could be an award winner at Oshkosh or any other airshow.

I



know that none of these projects will get off the ground without a commitment from the membership. I also know that there are many obstacles to overcome, but I believe they can be. So, I would ask that you all think about these and come up with some reasons why and how we can accomplish them. Be positive and think about what you can contribute.

More to come on the EAA Chapter 72 Home at a later date.

September is going to be a busy month. Carl Benda's KFLY-In is the 14th, 15th & 16th. On the 20th is our general membership meeting @ 1800 hrs. Robert Husted, the DAR that was going to be our speaker in July, is back and at this point says he can make our September meeting. Not a 100% yet but keep your fingers crossed! With Sandy out of town I am not sure about YE's in September but if we do fly it will be on the 22nd. On the 25th School District 11 would like for us to fly some of their students. They have 20-25 students 11-14 years of age. Since this is a school project and part of an aviation course, it has to be done on a week day, so hopefully Lee Wolford can round up some pilots and a ground crew.

See you at Kelly on the 18th.

Jim Steward



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SEPT

14-15-16

2018



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Come flying with us for a weekend of fun activities, camping, food and fellowship.

- September 14th early arrivals, on field tie down with overnight camping. Food will be available on-site, live music and refreshments.
- Saturday 15th. Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner available. Intro to Mountain Flying Ground School, Intro to Formation Flying Ground School. War Bird Museum Tours (KCOS), Glider Rides, Flour Bombing Competition, Saturday Morning RAT Rod Car Show, Evening Music and Beer Garden.
- Sunday 16th morning breakfast with mid morning departures.

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BRUCE McCOMBS QUIETLY PASSES LATE MAY 2018

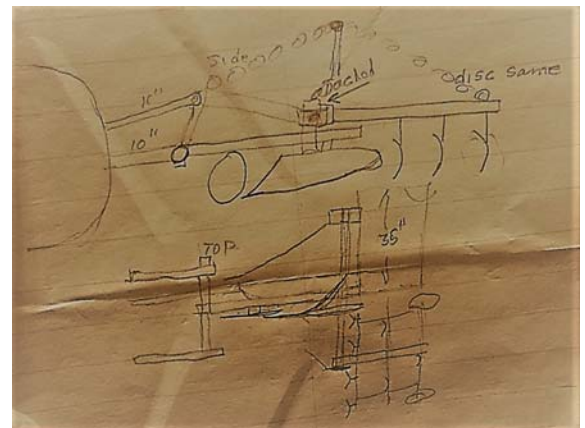
By Al Spratford

I first met Bruce in the late eighties when I joined Chapter 72. About 1990 Bruce and Evan (his son) talked me into buying the Lacey M10 as a project I could rebuild as a novice with airplanes.

Bruce said he'd help and look over my shoulder while I did most of the work.

I felt that after I retired the work would go fast and I'd have a flyable aircraft. Wrong! Bruce did watch me and correct me as "you need to do it over."

During the 25 years plus Bruce and I worked together we finished his L-2 Taylorcraft, carved a wood propeller and he flew it on his EAA Biplane.



One trip around the pattern and Bruce said

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“it needs to be done over” – wrong pitch. We never did do it again. We rebuilt the Lycoming O-290 in the Lacey, built the Wittman W-10, fixed a lot of welds and opened up the side windows of the Lacey, covered the fuselage with fabric, repaired and installed spoilers, built new ailerons, and covered the wings with fabric.

Bruce and I built the tube and fabric Little Wings Gyro and taxi tested it. I bought a C-150 after Bruce okayed it. He also okayed buying a Bob Swink motorglider which we fixed up. We flew both of them several years before I sold them.

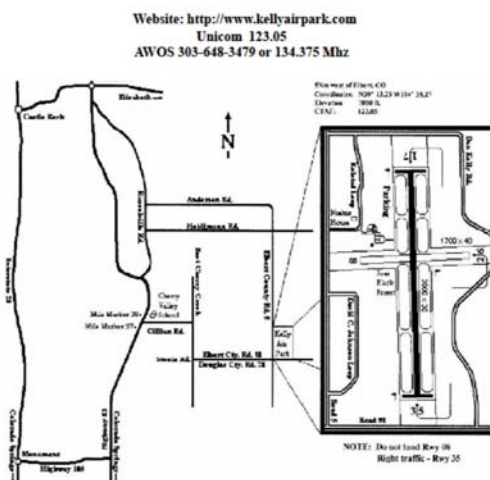
We also kept his Mooney in flyable condition which we flew until he could not get up on the wing to fly it. So he flew his Wittman Tailwind instead or the L-2. But, as he turned 90, it got harder for him to get into.

We had many long conversations about airplanes over the years and I've learned a lot and will never forget Bruce McCombs.

This is what it is all really about....the airplanes, but along the way Bruce started our Chapter, built our airport and a heck of a lot of airplanes. So the next time you taxi out to take off on One Five, tip your hat to Bruce and the guys and what they accomplished for us. It was a lot of hard work.

From Bruce McCombs Member Profile
by Richard Martin

NEXT MEETING: Jamie Treat's Hangar, SW Corner of photo below. Saturday, Aug. 18 Fly-in or Drive-in. . Arrive 10:00 AM. BBQ 12:00 PM. Visit Jamie's Vintage Aircraft Projects



Chapter Financials (Not Available this month)

Opportunities are available to help Chapter 72.
Two volunteers needed. The Chapter's board is looking for a couple volunteers to review our by-laws for possible updates. Contact Scott Bengert at scb5710@comcast.net if you can help."

Sponsor A Wreath

Wreaths Across America (NAGVRW)

We're on a mission to remember, honor and teach. Join us by sponsoring a wreath to be placed in honor of a veteran this December. We'll ensure that their sacrifice is remembered yet again and passed on to a new generation of Americans.



General sponsorship wreaths are not grave-specific, but you can add a card or e-card to let someone know you sponsored. Please visit the "Honor & Remember" area of our site if you'd like to make a grave-specific request.
Each wreath cost \$15.00. If a person wants to purchase more than that, they can. You can also designate the cemetery for which these wreaths are to be placed. Please annotate they are for Fairview Cemetery in Colorado Springs. The main fundraising group for this activity is the Evergreen Cemetery Benevolent Society as they sponsor both Evergreen and Fairview Cemeteries. Both cemeteries are city-owned and maintained.

Go to <https://donate.wreathsasscrossamerica.org> to make your donation. Click on Sponsor a specific Cemetery. In the search bar, type Fairview Cemetery. You will see a list of about 5 cemeteries with that same name. Choose the one located in Colorado Springs.

Our students at North Middle School will be placing these wreaths at Fairview on December 15. We will need 30 volunteers for this project. There are approximately 450 veterans ranging from the Civil War to current times buried at this cemetery. We want to remember all of them.

If you would like to volunteer to help place these wreaths, please contact either Ray Sevits or Esther Smith. We are limited to a maximum of 30 volunteers as this cemetery is small. Please supply your e-mail address so we can send more information to you as the time nears. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Jerome Limoge, M.D.
Senior Aviation Medical Examiner

Online Scheduling: drlimoge.as.me

2020 North Academy Blvd.
Suite 155
Colorado Springs, CO 80909
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Fax (719) 219-0916

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**Next Meeting
Saturday,
August 18, 2018**

Randy Loyd
Newsletter Publisher
17435 Caribou Dr. E
Monument, CO 80132

Phone: (719) 331-2169
Email: garyrloyd@avsource.com



Visit our website: <http://eaa72.org>

Chapter 72 Officers

President:	Jim Steward	719-352-1608	jim@kdsteward.com
Vice President:	Scott Bengert	719-481-4055	scb5710@comcast.net
Secretary:	Esther Smith	719-637-0876	esthersmith@juno.com
Treasurer:	Sandy Martin	719-351-1640	sandy_martin@earthlink.net
Membership Chairman:	Carl Benda	719-649-0052	carl@automatic-access.com
Director:	Vann Norred	719-229-2150	vann@pikespeak.net
Young Eagle Coordinator:	Sandy Martin	719-351-1640	sandy_martin@earthlink.net
Young Eagle Pilot Coordinator:	Lee Wolford	719-338-1370	leefly@Sprynet.com
Newsletter:	Randy Loyd	719-331-2169	garyrloyd@avsource.com
Webmaster:	Bob Hall	719-591-6622	robjhall@comcast.net

Technical Counselors/Advisors:

Fred Carter - Engines	719-291-0815	Burrall Sanders	719-660-8650
Jay Brinkmeyer	719-963-3408		

About Our Chapter

EAA Chapter 72 meets at Meadow Lake Airport. **Meetings are on 3rd Thursday evening of each month** with a Young Eagle Rally and/or breakfast/brunch/lunch or other activity throughout the month on Saturdays. Look for the calendar of events to highlight special chapter events like Young Eagle Rallies, fly-outs, and all other chapter sponsored activities.

The Chapter Newsletter is published monthly, normally mailed and available on the website a few days before each meeting. Readers are encouraged to contribute articles, photos, etc. by submitting them to the Newsletter Editor in hard copy — email, pen/paper, as long as it's not verbal—by the first Saturday of each month.

Annual membership is \$25. Send to Sandy Martin, at 7505 Mallard Drive, Peyton, CO 80831, payable EAA Chapter 72, and start receiving the newsletter each month, attending the meetings and having a great time with sport aviation.