

FEBRUARY, 1997



CHAPTER 27 NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY, 1997 ISSUE

Meetings Held on the Third Sunday of the Month at Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden, CT

OLDIE BUT GOODIE



Above photo, taken at a Fall fly-in, shows a beautifully crafted Pietenpol Air Camper taxiing for takeoff. The plans for this aircraft go back almost 70 years but some are still being built. In fact we know of one in the area that has been under construction for a number of years. Powerplants were usually Model A Fords but at least one ambitious builder used a Model T!

NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY, FEB. 16

The February meeting of EAA Chapter 27 will be held at Meriden-Markham Airport on Sunday, February 16, 1997. Time 10:00 A. M.

AIRCRAFT PLYWOOD NOTE

Anyone interested in obtaining aircraft grade plywood will find a few samples plus a price list on the table at this meeting.

FEBRUARY SEMINAR—DYKE DELTA PROJECT

Again, our monthly seminar utilizes the Video expertise of Jeff Davenport in bringing you scenes of Jim Maher's Dyke Delta building-restoration. Jim's project is in Milford and we understand he also has some videos of the construction.

FLY-IN PLANS UPDATE

Our new Fly-In Chairman, Alan Ortnor, informs us that our spring fly-in plans are underway. He will order the plaques and is looking for volunteers to assist at our event. Be prepared to offer your services.

REMEMBER—IT'S FEB. 16 AT MMK AIRPORT—TIME: 10:00 A. M.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As most of you are aware, our chapter has had the same officers for the past three years. The current officers firmly believe that our chapter thrives on keeping the member participation levels high in all areas. This includes the need to bring new officers, along with their enthusiasm and ideas, into the process to constantly improve our chapter and its activities.

As a result, we have recently reorganized our chapter officers for the remainder of 1997. I am pleased to welcome Dave Pepe as the new Vice-President of EAA Chapter 27. Stan Solecki will assume the duties of the chapter Secretary and Charles Maxted will continue his duties as chapter Bulletin Board Chairman and historian. These changes have been voted upon and approved by our membership during the January chapter meeting. This move will set the stage for establishing a progression of officers within the chapter.

I will be working closely with Dave to further refine this progression process for the benefit of our organization. We will be reporting back to the membership in the future as to the results of our efforts.

I am also pleased to inform you that Alan Ortnier has volunteered to assume the role of Fly-In Chairman for 1997. Our former Fly-In Chairman, Joe Page, has relocated to Virginia. Joe established a standard of coordination for this event that will be a tough act to follow (with the one exception of Joe's lack of control over the weather). However, I am certain, that with the continued support of all of us, Al's new role will be a success for him and also for our chapter.

I am also pleased to welcome the recent new members to our chapter. Our membership has grown to 88 members and we are all looking forward to another exciting year with the EAA.

See you all at our next meeting.

Jim

JANUARY ATTENDANCE REPORT

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Les Mercer | Frank Mlynick |
| Maury Libson | Steve Socolosky |
| Wilfred J. Miller | Lester Brainerd |
| Burt Sacknoff | Stan Chaffin |
| Al Basso | Dave Emmons |
| Stan Solecki | Ed Morris |
| Jim Simmons | Howard Linker |
| Ray Morgan | Fran Uliano |
| C. Maxted | Mike Zemsta |
| Herb Bullock | Oscar Duff |
| Bob Burk | Mike Kredar |
| David Peters | Jim Maher |
| John Valuckas | Jeff Fiscus |
| Jerry Desrochers | Frank Podgwaite |
| Bob Brown | Ken Blake |
| Harry Carl | Chan Schiller |
| David Pepe | Ron Wilchynski |
| Alan E. Ortnier | Fred Caputo |
| George Anderson | Bob Ryan |
| Ed Schinitis | |

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 6-12—LAKELAND, FL—Spring Celebration of Flight—Sun 'n Fun 1997.

MAY 17—MERIDEN—Chapter 27 Annual Fly-In. Rain date will be May 18.

MAY 30-31 & JUNE 1—Mohawk Valley Spring Ultralight Fly-In '97. Sponsored by USUA Club No. 16 and Mohawk Valley EAA Chapter 146.

JUNE 7—MERIDEN—Young Eagles Day.

JULY 31-AUG. 6—OSHKOSH, WI—45th Annual EAA Convention.

SEPT. 27—MERIDEN—POKER RUN—Sponsored by all the Connecticut chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

NEW PART 61

As this edition of CHAPTERGRAM was going to press, EAA was told that the Final Rule for the revised Part 61 was about to be published. This comes after a tremendous effort by the FAA to complete the rewrite of FAR Part 61 and a six-month long review at the DOT. Unfortunately the FAA was instructed by DOT to release the Final Rule without the self-certified medical provision. As proposed, the FAA will remove of the 50-mile limitation on recreational pilots and incorporated most of EAA's comments. EAA commends the many efforts by FAA officials who did their best to include the self-certified medical provision for recreational pilots despite the objection of DOT. Members can expect a complete report on the new rule in the next edition of CHAPTERGRAM.

1997 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE UNDERWAY

It's that time of year again when we ask you to continue your financial support to the activities of EAA Chapter 27. Where else can you receive all of the camaraderie, fellowship, knowledge, experience, newsletters, activities, coffee, donuts, etc. for only \$15 per year. Be sure to pay up now before we raise the rates. Please be sure to send in your 1997 membership form with your payment.

EAA CHAPTER 27 OFFICERS FOR 1997

President—Jim Simmons: 272-9346
Vice President—Dave Pepe: 634-4457
Treasurer—Robert Ryan: 865-4528
Secretary—Stan Solecki: 235-0790
Technical Counselor—Jeff Davenport: 269-6745
Technical Counselor—Ed Morris: 265-3932
Young Eagles Coordinator—Fran Uliano: 347-0412
Bulletin Board—Charles Maxted: 272-4922
Flight Advisor—Bob Bailey: 281-4332
Newsletter Editor—Herb Bullock: 272-8007

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Chapter 27 of the Connecticut EAA was called to order at 10:05 on January 19th, 1997. A Happy New Year to everyone!!!

The first order of business was a warm welcome to all attendees and a roll call of the officers who were all present and accounted for. Visitors were also asked to introduce themselves and naturally the majority were building various RV's.

The treasurer's report was given and a motion was made to accept by Stan and seconded by Ed Morris. Presently we have \$526.77 in the treasury.

The Tech Counselors had a slow month as seems natural with the weather we have been having. One new RV-6A has been finished and should be flying soon.

Fran Uliano, complete with his fifty mission cap, reported on present activities of the Young Eagles Program. The newspaper article in the Cheshire Herald has generated new interest and Jim has received a few phone calls for rides.

A progress report about the tetrahedron project was given by Chairman Ed Morris. The basic theoretical concepts have been completed and a major survey of all mechanical components has shown all is ready for erection. Frank Mlynick offered to chair the project painting committee for the tetrahedron. It was suggested he ask only the younger members to be part of the group as some of us older fellows may not be around at its completion.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The secretary read a thank you note from Tony Bingelis. Tony is retiring his Sport Aviation column and the chapter had sent him a card thanking him for all the help his column has given home builders over the years.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A discussion began and will continue next month about the Christmas Party date.

2. Chapter officers, Tech counselors and Young Eagle chairman were officially recognized by the National Organization with patches and diplomas presented by Jim Simmons.

3. Van's RV Aircraft Company sent a proclamation to Chapter 27 making it an official branch of the popular Van's Airforce.

Pilots of flying RVs are automatically Captains in the Air Force. Other ranks depend upon where you are in the building process. Bob Burk and I are Privates while Dave Pepe and Bob Ryan are lowly grunts.

4. Sport Aviation, the national magazine, has recognized Ed Morris for outstanding volunteer work, BRAVO!!

5. A new experimental FAX Trader was handed out at the meeting.

6. A discussion was begun concerning airport improvement projects. This discussion will continue at the February meeting. One suggestion was an airport clean-up day prior to our fly-in. Another was a repainting of the Meriden taxiway sign. Have your ideas ready at the next meeting.

7. As you are all aware, we have had difficulty finding new members to act as officers. The reluc-

tance seems to be chiefly a fear of lack of experience. No one wants to jump into a position without knowing what it entails, especially the time element. The president's position is obviously the most important and the one requiring the most time and work. The plan suggested to the membership was to ask Dave Pepe to assume the vice presidency now and work with Jim and the rest of us and then assume the office of president next year. Stan Solecki, our present vice president, would take over the secretary chores and I would retain the chairmanship of the bulletin board and chapter historian. This procedure was acceptable to the membership present and Dave, his fetters removed, was duly elected and appointed Vice President of Chapter 27 for 1997. We know we have a good man working with us and for us.

8. Alan Ortner has agreed to take over the big job of directing the 1997 Fly-In.

AVIATION NEWS

Published every other week, General Aviation News & Flyer has the latest general aviation news, an extensive classified ad section, pilot reports on new and used aircraft, a calendar of events, maintenance and safety tips, and more. Nationwide coverage, tabloid newspaper. For a free introductory six-issue EAA chapter trial subscription, phone toll-free 1-800-426-8538, or write to the Flyer, P.O. Box 39099, Tacoma, WA 98439. Please mention your EAA chapter number when calling or writing. Offer good through May 1997, and also applies to current subscribers.

At the conclusion of the trial sub, we'll send a renewal. If a member wants to continue the subscription, they pay \$29 and get an additional 26 issues. If not, no response is necessary.

CHAPTER MEMBERS EXCEL AGAIN!

It is our pleasure to report that EAA Chapter 27 members continue to be recognized for accomplishments within the aviation community. Most recently we have learned that Frank Podgwaite has completed Phase VI of the FAA Wings program. Congratulations, Frank!

Our Florida based member, Carl Eaton, has completed Phase XIV of the FAA Wings program! This is the highest level of attainment of anyone in the program. Congratulations, Carl! Slow down Carl and give the other pilots a chance to catch up.

CHAPTER DIRECTORIES

The EAA has revised the process of obtaining a copy of the International Chapter Directory. The 1997 Chapter Directory is obtained by sending in the request card which can be found in the center section of the January, 1997 edition of Sport Aviation magazine.

FOR SALE

McCAULEY WHEEL HALF 5.00x5. No. C-30598; Hamilton Standard prop governor, model A-4-A5 (275 Jacobs). Frank Podgwaite, 78 Culver Lane, North Haven, CT 06473. Voice 203-776-4758; Fax 203-288-4458.

HERB BULLOCK
1315 Meadow Road
Cheshire, CT 06410

1997 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the following form and mail with your dues to: **ROBERT RYAN, 6 MANOR COURT, NORTH HAVEN, CT 06473.** (Dues are \$15.00 per year. Make checks out to EAA Chapter 27).

Name Phone
Street City State Zip
Current EAA No. Pilot Rating Held
Do you own an aircraft? Make and Model Registration No.
Do you have a project? Model % Completed

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