



MARCH, 1986

CHAPTER 27 NEWSLETTER

MARCH, 1986 ISSUE

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

IT'S EAGLE TIME



— Photo shows the immaculate Christen Eagle built by Dave Faile and flown by Joe Gauthier (both members of neighboring Chapter 166). Joe's wife, Carol, is in the front cockpit and they are returning from a summer's fly-in at one of our not-too-distant airports. Since spring is just around the corner we can expect more scenes like this.

NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY, MARCH 9

The March meeting of EAA Chapter 27 will be held at Meriden-Markham Airport on Sunday, March 9, 1986. Time—10 a.m.

SLIDE PRESENTATION FOR MARCH MEETING

The March meeting will feature a slide program by Jim Simmons on the transcontinental journey of his Skybolt in 1984. The trip started with a stop at Oshkosh that year and continued on to the West Coast with various stops along the way including a visit to Catalina Island. Herb Bullock was fortunate in being able to accompany Jim on his trip.

ALCOHOL TESTS

As expected the FAA has adopted a rule that requires pilots and other crew members of aircraft to submit to alcohol tests by authorized state and local police officers. This action was proposed under NPRM 81-9a on April 17, 1985 and EAA in responding said that they did not flatly oppose the rule but felt that it would have little effect on preventing accidents due to alcohol abuse. In any event the FAA says the new rule will become effective on April 6, 1986 and any pilot who refuses to submit to an alcohol test by a local or state police office **may** have his certificate suspended. The rule also specifies that the test must be taken within 4 hours after an accident and that a blood alcohol content by weight of .04% will determine

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REMEMBER—IT'S MARCH 9 IN THE UPSTAIRS CLASSROOM AT MMK AIRPORT—TIME 10:00 A.M.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

As you have read about in many magazines, the insurance industry is currently raising their rates dramatically for liability insurance coverage. Many of us have found this to be true for our personal aircraft insurance and now it has reached our EAA national operations as well.

In the past our national organization provided liability coverage for all chapter operations at no cost to the chapters. This year the individual chapters are being called upon to assume part of the premium costs. Our annual fee is \$25.00 which provides us with:

- 1,000,000 liability insurance for property damage and bodily injury claims.
- All chapter officers and members of the chapter will be insured during the normal course of operations of the chapter.
- Coverage extends to any location where chapter operations are held.
- Coverage includes picnics, mall displays, etc.
- No alcoholic beverages are permitted at any functions.

NOTE: This policy does not include any coverage for flying activities.

My personal view is that this is certainly a nominal fee and a reasonable request for each chapter to assume their share of the premium cost.

At the present time our national headquarters is looking into Fly-In liability insurance. However, the current estimate is for a \$1,000 premium for a one-day event with one million dollars worth of coverage. Very high!

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, March 9th at 10 A.M. I hope to see you all there.

Happy Flying!

Jim Simmons

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whether the pilot or crew member was under the influence of alcohol. Some police forces are using a new flashlight that has an odor sensor concealed in its base that can detect alcohol in a person's breath by .001%. The flashlight costs \$600.

There is some confusion about how serious alcohol is in the case of general aviation accidents. The FAA says that alcohol abuse as a cause factor in general aviation accidents has declined from 12.6% in 1971 to 4.8% in 1984. The National Transportation Safety Board comes out with different figures. From 1975 to 1981 10.5% of the tests on fatally injured general aviation pilots showed alcohol in the blood stream. The NTSB does not say that alcohol abuse was the primary cause of 10.5% of these fatalities but that alcohol was present and therefore was one of the elements in the cause of the accident.

MERRIMACK VALLEY BEAN BUST

(Following is a letter received from Paul LeBlanc of EAA Chapter 166, Merrimack Valley, MA)

Dear Chapter President:

EAA Chapter 136, Merrimack Valley, again announces the 14th Annual Bean Bust on Saturday evening, April 26, 1986, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Camelot Hall, (opposite Lawrence Airport). We've reserved the large upper hall so there will be plenty of elbow room and a dance floor this year.

One of the portions of the evening's festivities includes the presentation of very special awards. The RAY HUFFMAN AWARD — HIGH FLIGHT PLAQUE is presented to any EAA member who has successfully completed a building or restoration project and flew it during the previous year, January to December, 1985.

Six of these awards were presented last year, and we look forward to each Chapter President submitting the names of candidates from their Chapters who may qualify.

No tickets will be sold at the door and the cut-off date for tickets is April 21st. We would also appreciate it if the ladies could bring a small contribution to our dessert table. All applicants for the HIGH FLIGHT AWARDS must be in by April 5, 1986 in order to do the necessary engraving, etc. During the night of the Bean Bust, nominations from the floor will be accepted for the HEELDRAGGER AWARD—Longest Time Building a Project; the FLYING TURTLE AWARD—Longest Time as a Student Pilot; and the JERKY TURKEY AWARD—Most Spectacular Landing. Your cooperation is always appreciated and we look forward to seeing you at the Chapter 136 Bean Bust, 1986.

Sincerely,

Paul LeBlanc
Chapter 136 EAA
(617) 535-6150

ADIZ ADVISORY CIRCULAR

Pilots who use routes which penetrate coastal Air Defense Identification Zones (ADIZ) should send for a new Advisory Circular, 99-1B, entitled "Security Control of Air Traffic." The AC is available from DOT Subsequent Distribution Unit, M-494.3, Washington, DC 20590. The publication is free.

CHAPTER 27 OFFICERS FOR 1986

President—Jim Simmons
Vice President—George Molina
Secretary—Sheila Seemann
Treasurer—Bob Seemann
Technical Consultant—Ed Dunn
Newsletter Editor—Herb Bullock

LIABILITY/INSURANCE AVAILABILITY CRISIS

The February issue of **SPORT AVIATION** carries our fourth article on the subject of the current liability crisis and the effect it is having on every business, industry, municipality and consumer in America. The article urges EAA members and chapters to become involved in seeking a solution to the problem. "We EAA members are 100,000 consumers. If each one of us writes four letters—one to our senator, one to our congressman, one to the chairman or a member of the Commerce Committee and one to the chairman or member of the Congressional Subcommittee on Transportation and Materials—we will have a significant impact on the future. Write individual letters. Petitions and form letters are ineffective. Also, since your elected representatives have no requirement to share their correspondence with EAA, or other members of the general public, please send a copy of your letter (and any reply) to the Office of Government Affairs at EAA headquarters. Your correspondence will be used to build a file of individual comments which one day may be useful on the floor of the U. S. Senate. Your action and your input is very important. If you don't write, you can be sure that our concerns will go largely ignored. The liability and insurance situation will continue to deteriorate. If you don't write, you can be sure that any reform package will be of little help for our aviation community. The choice is yours." • All EAA Chapters are urged to begin letter writing campaigns as soon as possible. Additional information on the liability situation may be found in the August, November, January, February and March issues of **SPORT AVIATION**. Excellent articles have also appeared in the January 27 issue of **U. S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT** and the January 21 issue of the **WALL STREET JOURNAL**.

• In the state of Wisconsin, EAA HQ staff members have joined a local product liability coalition which is seeking to amend state and local laws in order to bring some sanity and logic back into the tort system. Such coalitions and alliances are being formed across the country. EAA Chapter members are encouraged to join similar organizations being formed in their states. • As this issue of **HQ REPORT** goes to press, we have learned from sources in Washington that Senator Dan Glickman of Kansas intends to offer a "General Aviation Tort Reform Act" on the floor of the House of Representatives sometime during the month of February. Based upon the sketchy information we have received on this bill, it sounds as though it will benefit all of us in the sport and general aviation community and we will probably all want to support it. We'll keep you informed as more details develop.

• Malcolm Lawrence, the president of INAV, Inc., visited the EAA Aviation Center in January. He met with EAA's HQ staff on his proposal to establish "Aviation Products Arbitration Board to deal with product liability claims." The concept of an arbitration board, which mediates disputes, resolves conflicts and awards financial judgments to injured parties, is an idea that has been accepted by several U.S. industries and professions. The March issue of **SPORT AVIATION** will carry an article on how this concept might work within the sport and general aviation community.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 16-22—LAKELAND, FLORIDA—12th Annual Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, hosted by the Experimental Aircraft Association. Contact, Sun 'n Fun Office, P.O. Box 6750, Lakeland, FL 33807.

APRIL 25-27 — KILL DEVIL HILLS, N.C. — The fourth annual Wilbur Wright Fly-In at the Wright Brothers National Memorial. Saturday night banquet with awards for best dressed aviator and aviatrix. Event celebrates the birthday of Wilbur Wright, April 16, 1867. Aircraft will be judged with competition in five classes — homebuilt, ultralight, antique, classic and warbird. Sponsored by the First Flight Society, the National Park Service and Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 339 of Norfolk, Va. The Civil Air Patrol will assist in the event, which also includes an antique and collectible auto show. Contact: Gene O'Brien, managing director, First Flight Society, P.O. Box 1903, Kitty Hawk, N.C. 27949. Telephone (919) 441-3761.

JULY 19-27—QUEBEC, CANADA—First Air Rally of Quebec, including about 50 light airplanes touring the northern part of the Province of Quebec and landing at bush airports formerly used to develop the James Bay Hydro-electric project. Pilots and their passengers will sleep in tents and receive meals prepared by cooks flown in on "reliable DC-3s," according to organizers. Contact International Air Rally Organization, 1860 Broadway, Suite 1406, New York, N.Y. 10023.

ERCOUPE UPDATE

To all who have been asking "When are you and Bob going to get the Ercoupe over to MMK?" I would like to report that the last large item needed to complete the project (a split elevator) has been ordered from Univair. In addition to a delivery date of 60 days our hesitance in ordering same cost us an additional \$82.95. Inflation, you know! —H.B.

WANTED

PARTS FOR STINSON 108-2 — Left Wing, Left Strut, Prop, Tailfeathers, Cowling, Windshield — Ed Morris (203) 238-1134.

HONDA CIVIC ENGINE—EB 2 or 3. Must have aluminum block. Fred Troske. 753-7833.

CESSNA 150 OR 152—Other aircraft of comparable size considered. Morris Dibner, 34 Welton Street, New Haven, CT 06513. (203) 776-7592.

FOR SALE

TABLE SAW—Eight-inch with attachments including dado head and moulding head. Fred Troske 753-7833.

MARCH 16-23--LAKELAND, FLORIDA--12th Annual Sun 'n Fun Fly-In, hosted by the Experimental Aircraft Association. Contact: Sun 'n Fun Office, P.O. Box 6750, Lakeland, FL 33807.

APRIL 22-27--KILL DEVIL HILLS, N.C.--The fourth annual Wright Flyer at the Wright Brothers National Memorial, Saturday night banquet with awards for best dressed aviator and aviation. Event celebrated the birthday of Wilbur Wright April 16, 1907. Aircraft will be judged with competition in live classes -- homebuilt, ultralight, antique, classic and warbird. Sponsored by the First Flight Society, the National Park Service and Experimental Aircraft Association. Chapter 333 of Norfolk, Va. The Civil Air Patrol will assist in the event, which also includes an antique and collectible auto show. Contact: Gene O'Brien, managing director, First Flight Society, P.O. Box 1903, Kitty Hawk, N.C. 27949. Telephone (919) 441-3761.

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ERCOUPE UPDATE

To all who have been asking "When are you and Bob going to get the Erco Coupe over to MMKT?" I would like to report that the last large form needed to complete the project (a split elevator) has been ordered from Univac. In addition to a delivery date of 30-60 days our hope is in ordering same cost as an additional \$250.00. Installation, you know. --H.B.

WANTED

1986 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the following form and mail with your dues to: **BOB SEEMANN, 89 EARL AVENUE, HAMDEN, CT 06514.** (Dues are \$10 per year).

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