

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings from my corner of the hangar! Flying season has defiantly arrived in Arizona with every day picture perfect for getting out and either heading off to a Flyin or just boring some holes in the sky. This past Saturday I flew my Cub down to Coolidge for their monthly Flyin Breakfast and really had a great time. Probably a third of our Chapter was on hand for the food and looking at planes. May is the last month for this, until it cools off, so mark the first Saturday on your calendar.

This month we are having our annual Flyin/Drive in at Jack Pollacks hangar at Deer Valley. We are encouraging everyone to show up wither you fly, drive, walk or bike over, everyone is welcome and bring any guests along. This year the Arizona Antique Airplane Association is popping for the food and drink as a way of showing their appreciation for all the hard work our EAA Chapter does for them so it is our duty to eat and drink until it is all gone!

I hope to see you at the April meeting.

Curtis

CHAPTER 1217 FLYIN/DRIVEIN - SATURDAY APRIL 28- JACK POLLACKS HANGAR DVT NORTH SIDE 1030-1330

APRIL MEETING

The April meeting of Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 will be held on Thursday, April 19th, in the Scottsdale Airport Terminal Building. The time is 7pm. This month's guest speaker will be Pike Kelly who is coming over from Ventura, California to speak. Pike is a graduate Purdue University who has worked in the aerospace industry on the Citation Bravo, 525, Citation "Tracker" DEA Border Defense plane, Cessna JPATS program and Citation X, and the secret Cessna bassboat. After leaving Cessna he went to work for Screaming Eagle in Santa Paula, CA. and after that company closed its doors became the distributor for American Champion aircraft on the west coast. Pike is going to bring us up to date on the complete line of AC airplanes as well as talk about aging aircraft and some things we should be aware of. Remember guests are always welcome!

FIRST FLIGHT

Bill Lewallen has a lot to smile about these days, he has completed the ground up rebuild of his Yak 11 and reports that it is just plane fast! Bill bought the plane several years ago in northern California and has converted from its air racing configuration back to a two seater. The plane is powered by a Pratt and Whitney R-1830 with the prop off a Super DC-3. This very plane flew a 369.7 mph lap at Reno when it was called Maniyak so Bill has defiantly got a fast plane on his hands. In a later ThunderWord we will have more pictures and a complete story on the rebuild and restoration.

DICK DELAFIELD RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to Chapter 1217 member Dick Delafield on receiving the FAA's Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, which recognizes pilots who been flying for 50 or more consecutive years. Dick received his plaque at a luncheon honoring his second retirement from the FAA..

ROGER PARISH

Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 member Col. Roger Parrish was inducted into the Arizona Aviation Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony in Tucson on April 7th, 2007. The ceremony was held in Hangar #4

at the Pima Air and Space Museum. A group from our Chapter headed down a little early to tour the Pima Air Museum before joining three hundred guests for the ceremony and formal dinner.

CHAPTER 1217 SHIRTS & HATS

We have switched suppliers on the hats and shirts to a company in Casa Grande that did a great job on the Cactus Flyin shirts this year. A large order was placed in mid March so hopefully they will be available at the April meeting. The shirts are a slightly off white very light tan and will have a pocket. We have also ordered some of the women's style shirts so ladies let us know what you think of them.

BILLY WALKER DONATED TO MUSEUM

Capt Billy Walker has donated his Nieuport 17 to the Planes of Fame Museum in Valle, Arizona. Billy reports there are some great displays and you can fly directly into the Valle Airport, located between Williams and Grand Canyon Airports.

Mike Braegger, Jim Thorne and Billy flew their Bellanca up there to re-assemble "El Duce." It was only a 55 minute flight in the Bellanca, so it would be a great side trip for the members. Billy also says there are many good roads to land on or follow, some rather prominent landmarks to aid in navigation and many roads to get a salvage/recovery vehicle in should the inevitable happen, spoken like a true Nieuport pilot!

CHAPTER 1217 FLYIN/DRIVE IN

This year's annual Thunderbird Field EAA Chapter 1217 Flyin/Drive In will be held on Saturday April 28. Jack Pollack has donated his front row hangar on the north side at Deer Valley airport for this year's event. Things get underway around 10am with planes arriving and setup. If you are flying in park amongst the L-39 jets and be sure and bring wheel chocks. At noon time we will be having an old fashioned hangar cookout that is being paid for by the Arizona Antique Airplane Association as a way of saying thanks to everyone from our Chapter for our support in staffing their Cactus Flyin. Everyone is welcome so bring your family and friends, there will be plenty of food and drinks to go around. If you are driving in go to the north perimeter road and go to the west entrance for the hangars. Signs will be posted but call 602 710-4494 and we will come down and let you through the gate. It might be a good idea to bring lawn chairs to sit in.

THE NIGHT THE PASTA DIED

As
the song goes "bye, bye pizza pie" or something like that. Jerry Tuccis Italian Restaurant closed its doors one day before its eleventh anniversary last month. The restaurant had hosted one of our Chapter 1217 Holiday parties a few years back and helped out with the catering for our last two Chapter parties. Skyrocketing building lease rates were the primary reason for closing.

CENTRAL SIERRA HELICOPTER MEET

The second annual Central Sierra Helicopter Meet is scheduled for May 4, 5 and 6 2007. This is the only all Helicopter Meet in the west, that is focused on Experimental and Home Built Helicopters. But, all Factory built Helicopters are very welcomed and invited to participate.

Bring your ships and share your ideas, bring your photo book, if you don't bring a ship. It's great to meet all the other builders, and see their builds.

Anyone that would like to give a seminar us a call. Last year Stu from the Experimental Helicopter Magazine gave a very captivating seminar on blade balancing.

Heli-Chair Emulator was on site, I believe almost everyone tried to fly the Heli.

We were happy to have Helicycles, Safari, Scorpion II, Ultrasports, Schweizers and a Bell 47.

There is camping on site. Tents, trailers and motor homes are welcome.

This is a great event and we encourage all to help spread the word. Please feel free to contact us and keep an eye out for our web site, which is being built.

12850 Cherry Lake Rd. Groveland, California (off Hwy 120 northern route into Yosemite) Ranch coordinates 37.51'11.15N 120'00'06.60W or you can call 707 833-5905 for more information on the event and nearby medical facilities. www.cshelimeet.com

GALLUP AIR FAIR

Mark your calendars, this years Gallup Air Fair in Gallup New Mexico will be held on Thursday 27 Sept 2007. This is an educational opportunity held in conjunction with the local school district. Students are transported to/from the airport all day. Last year was a great success with over 1000 students participating. It is hoped by moving this to a midweek event it can help eliminate scheduling conflicts with other shows. If you are interested in participating in this year's event with a static display or flight demonstration drop Jim Hoy an email at diogall@cnetco.com.

ROTORWAY AIMS TO PRODUCE CERTIFICATED HELICOPTER

Chandler based RotorWay International's new CEO Grant Norowitz revealed that the company is working on a certificated helicopter at its South Africa facility. South Africa subscribes to the European (JAR) standards, and eventual FAA certification will be sought. Upgrades may include more power, a larger cabin, and more-robust gear. Rotorway already builds a FADEC engine, and has announced upgrades to avionics such as a glass cockpit display in the newest kits. Additionally, the certificated helicopter will incorporate engineering changes designed to make the machines easier to maintain, resulting in management's goal of demonstrating best-in-class operating expenses. For more information visit www.rotorway.com.

MONOPOLY 'CENTURY OF FLIGHT' AVIATION EDITION

Same great Monopoly fun, only now you can buy the 1903 Wright *Flyer* or an F-35 Joint Strike Fighter and buy hangars and airports, instead of houses and hotels. Chance and Community Chest cards are now Jets and Prop cards. Game pieces are a hot-air balloon, an airship, a monoplane, a piston twin, and a helicopter. A must for all Monopoly fans. Supply is limited, so order today! Shop online at the EAA Aeronautica website or call 800-843-3612 to order. Price is \$35.95

PROMOTE YOUR FLYING EVENT

START NOW to promote your 2007 aviation event on BARNSTORMERS.COM . They are offering to list your event on our "2007 Calendar of Events", along with display of your event poster, PLUS a banner ad that will display, in rotation, throughout ALL classified ads pages... giving your event maximum exposure to an average of 385,994 visitors per month.

If you wish to take advantage of this offer, please provide the following information for your 2007 Aviation Event to be displayed on the Calendar of Events located on the following page:

<http://www.barnstormers.com/EVENTS/events.html>

1. Official Name of Event:
2. Date(s) of Event:

3. City and State:
4. Airport Identifier:
5. Email address for Event Information:
6. Webpage address for Event Information:

If you wish to provide a **poster to display FREE on the following page, the size must be exactly 280 pixels wide x 210 pixels high and submitted in a .jpg or .gif image format:**

<http://www.barnstormers.com/EVENTS/events.html>

For 2007, Barnstormers is also offering **FREE display of your 150 pixels wide x 60 pixels high banner** ad, in rotation, at the top of all classified ad pages so that your event will have maximum exposure to an average of 385,994 aviation visitors each month. This banner will link to event details on the event's website.

If you do not have anyone to create your poster and banner ad, send us some graphics or a logo to work with and we'll make one for you. Or direct us to a webpage that has the event details and/or graphics, and give us permission to use those.

Looking forward to receiving your promotional material and to helping your event be successful in attracting participants and attendees from all over the world. For more information contact, Lorraine Kivi (Baroness) BARNSTORMERS.COM Aviation's Busiest Marketplace.

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THUNDERAD ADDITIONS

ANYWHERE MAP GPS which is in a PDI format and an ATTITUDE INDICATOR that includes GPS altitude, distance and speed plus Artificial Horizon and "Gyro" compass.

See <http://www.anywheremap.com/aviation-gps.aspx>

It is being shipped to Control Vision (mfg) who have promised to go through it, put in new batteries and make the data systems current to April 2007. They will be a great deal for someone at less than 2/3 price. They plug into the planes electrical but have four hour internal batteries. The unit is light enough to Velcro on the instrument panel. Hal Rozema 602 553-8181 Hartist1@cox.net