



Experimental Aircraft Association

CHAPTER 393

Concord, California

September, 1988

CHAPTER MEETING

September 28, 1988 Wed. 7:30 PM
Buchanan Field BRING CHAIRS
Terminal Building BRING CHAIRS

PROGRAM

All Systems Go

Lyle Powell on aircraft "systems" and their role in today's modern homebuilts. Using his heavily systemized Glasair III as an example, Lyle will cover the topic from spinner to tail.

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MINUTES OF AUGUST MEETING

We had 47 members and 2 guests attend. Russ Giffon filled in for Rich to run things. The treasurer's report and prior meeting minutes were read and approved. Twenty four members have not paid their dues, please check your address label. Kay Smith reported on the noise ordinance. Dan Canady of MDPA told us that MDPA members get a 17 cents per gallon discount on avgas at Million Air, Buchanan. Oshkosh attendees reported in detail. The program was a video on aviation in Australia and a few minutes on Molt Taylor's Air-car, courtesy of Bill DeProsse, thanks Bill.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Busy summer! I managed to get to Oshkosh, and it was busy as ever--great show. I caught a ride with Andy Marshall in a club Bonanza. We had good weather, no trouble, and it was refreshingly challenging to fly by pilotage and VORs instead of letting the LORAN do the work. Stay in a private home at OSH, it is so much nicer. Tromped up and down the whole field and saw most everything I wanted to. I also recommend "doing" some of Oshkosh by yourself - indulge yourself in looking at a bunch of stuff as long as you like. You can spend a whole day in the Fly Market alone, and drop a wad on those "necessary" things. Every type and style of aircraft is represented, and you can get your fill of whatever before long. Overall, an experience any EAA'er shouldn't miss.

We have several technical programs in the months to come, and we'll be calling on the members to share some of your best building tips. I hope to see you all at a meeting soon.

Rich Powell

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AVIATION GROUP NEWS

The Board of Sups. has the noise ordinance. More from our political correspondents at the meeting.

VIEWPOINT

I checked with the phone company and, yes, my telephone's working. I check my P.O. box every morning and it rarely has anything in it from you. And so, I'm afraid, unless I get more support from the membership, you're going to be seeing more and more white space on these pages.

Membership in any organization carries with it some responsibility. All I'm asking is that you send me a note. Tell me how you're coming along with your project. Tell me what you think about the state of aviation and EAA. Let me know if you have an item you'd like to sell or buy. I need your input. Please send your comments, ideas, jokes, gossip, anything, to Jordan Coonrad, P.O. Box 2878, Alameda, CA 94501.

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DUES ARE DUE

If your last name begins with any of the letters from L-Z your dues are currently due. The following may help determine if this includes you:

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

Starting this month you will also notice your dues due date on your mailing label. Please check it out so that we will not have to drop you after the ninety (90) day grace period.

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OSHKOSH '88

More than 825,000 people and 15,000 airplanes (including a record 2,053 showplanes) visited Wittman Field. The field was closed to transient aircraft on Opening Day at 9:00 A.M.! The FAA tower recorded 61,757 aircraft movements over the eight-day event. And you thought Buchanan was busy.

SWAMP GHOST UPDATE

The Travis AFB Museum has initiated a project to retrieve a Boeing B-17E, the "Swamp Ghost," which has been lying in the swamps of Papua New Guinea since the early days of 1942.

The "Swamp Ghost," piloted by Lt. Fred C. Eaton Jr., was one of six B-17's that participated in the first bombing raid of Rabaul Harbor in New Britain, a Japanese stronghold off the north coast of New Guinea. When the first planes arrived over the target, Rabaul was hidden by clouds and volcanic smoke and steam. The planes circled overhead for 25 minutes before an opening appeared and they were able to drop their bombs on the ships in the harbor and head home.

But the bombs in Eaton's plane hung up in the rack and he had to make a second pass to release them. Meanwhile, the Japanese were alerted, and an anti-aircraft shell pierced her right wing. Then as many as 8 Japanese Zeroes attacked the lone bomber and after a 40 minute battle in the air the B-17 was peppered with holes. She had also knocked at least two of the Zeroes out of the sky.

Eaton headed for Port Moresby where he could refuel but a few hours later it was clear he wasn't going to make it over the Owen Stanley Mountains. So he landed his plane in the Agaimbo Swamp where it has remained for 45 years. All of the crew members survived the landing and the 6-week ordeal which followed as they made their way through the swamp, out to the coast and round the eastern end of New Guinea to Port Moresby. Many of them are alive to this day.

Even though her participation in the war was cut short, the "Swamp Ghost" will play an important role in decades to come. The Travis AFB Museum plans to return the "Swamp Ghost" to the Travis AFB where she will be restored by the members of the Travis AFB Historical

Society, and put on display at the Museum. She is the oldest intact Boeing-built B-17 in the world, the only one with remote bottom turret, the only B-17 still in its original combat configuration, and the only WWII airplane that can be restored to show its original combat damage.

The Travis AFB Historical Society needs to raise \$200,000 to get the job done. Those wishing to help bring the "Swamp Ghost" home should should contact Bob Gonzales at (415)798-5100 or send your tax-deductable contribution to the Travis AFB Historical Society, P.O. Box 1565, Travis AFB, CA 94535.

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CALENDAR

- Sept. 28
Chapter Meeting
- Oct. 1-2
17th annual EAA Oktoberfest Fly-in & Campout, Benton Air Park, Redding. Kathy Maxwell (916)241-6152
- Oct. 7-9
Antique Flyin, Schellville
- Oct. 8-9
Chapter 275's Oktoberfest Fly-in & W.C. Fields Festival, Lompoc. Jeff Hefner (805)733-3632
- Oct. 11
Board Meeting
- Oct. 21-23
His & hers Great Pumpkin Classic Air Race, 250 Miles, Salinas. Race Kit \$3. Bill Childers (408)422-3792
- Oct. 23
Edwards AFB Open House and Flying Demonstration (805)277-3510
- Oct. 28-29
Salinas Int'l Airshow, Salinas

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(swamp ghost)

UNCLASSIFIED

28HP Rotax aircraft engine complete with prop and exhaust, \$350. Ed Rudolph (415)254-2198.

Shopsmith with some accessories. Call Ed Rudolph (415)254-2198.

Wanted: prop hub for a taper shaft, A-series Continental. Call Dennis Colomb (707)429-0693.

1947 Ercoupe 415CD project. Fuselage inspected and chromated, wings need inspection & cover. No firewall forward. Many extra interior parts. All logs and registration. \$750 O.B.O. (916)624-0109.

1978 Acro Sport (single seat, built by Garry Grover) \$9500. Call Fred Kros (415)399-3716.

Glasair windshield 3/16". Make offer. Steve Macica (415)792-7510.

Glasair kit. \$10,750. Norm Alumbaugh, P.O. Box 200, Pope Valley, CA 94567. (707)965-2709.

Precision welding. Aluminum, stainless, 4130. Eric Schuldt, 1820 Baldwin Dr., Concord, CA 94519. (415)827-0259.

Telex Headsets w/dynamic mikes, Exec. cond. & work great, 2 sets Larry Laughlin (415)758-3532.

Wanted: Cessna 170 A or B model also Lyc. 0-360 A1A or similar. Jordan Coonrad (415)769-9766.

Note. Unclassifieds are free and easy. Just call Jordan Coonrad at (415)769-9766 or leave a message.

THIS SPACE AVAILABLE

Business card ads (subject to board approval) from EAA members are \$35 a year. Send your ad and check to EAA Chapter 393, PO Box 2269, Walnut Creek, CA 94595.

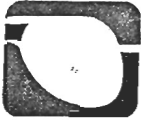
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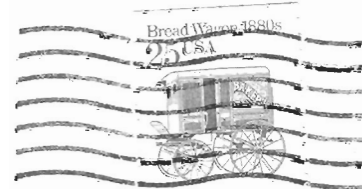
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DUES ARE DUE! 07/89

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