

# **Chapter 569**

## **NEWSLETTER**

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## **CHAPTER PICNIC**

(Our monthly Chapter meeting will be held at the picnic - no meeting on June 1st)

**When...** Sunday, June 6th. Flying and B.S. Sessions begin around 3:00 P.M. Supper at 5:30. More flying and B.S. Sessions following supper, until dark or Mom gets bored.

**Where...** Sky Ranch Acres - aka: Pestors, 112th and Holdrege Street, Lincoln, NE

**Why...** To get out of the house and go flying, plus we've invited the Boy Scouts to join us so they can experience flying in real airplanes.

**Who...** Any and all, plus your family, and bring a friend or two if you wish.

**Details...** Bring a potluck dish plus place settings for each member of your party. Also, please bring a couple of lawn chairs and a card table if you have one. The Chapter will provide pop.

Ken says the Young Eagle Kits are in, so call if you need some.

**ALERT !** Pestors is only 1700 feet long so use extreme caution when flying in. Practice your short field landings before dropping in as everyone will be watching! There is 100 octane LL available on the field.

For additional information, call Ken Mueller at 792-2878 or Jeff Clausen at 488-9224.

**EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION**

WITTMAN AIRFIELD, OSHKOSH, WI 54903-3086 - PHONE 414-426-4800 - FAX 414-426-4828



## EAGLES NEST UPDATE

This is it! It's time to rally and show your support for Eagles Nest. The hearing before the County Commissioners is scheduled for June 1st at 12:00 noon. We would like as many of you that can to please be present to show your support. We would also like you to write or call the Commissioners.

This will be the last hearing before the Commissioners vote for the permit. If they vote "yes" we are off and running. This is a tough one for the Commissioners. A lot of emotion has been displayed during the last 3 years and they have to make a decision which will be very displeasing to one of the opposing groups and could end up back in court. Help them by giving them some input and explanations on flying terms and rules.

If you haven't done so already, send your sign-up sheets to Don Shoemaker immediately.

The County Commissioners are:

Larry Hudkins (District 2)  
Rt. 1 Box 34  
Malcom, NE 68402  
796-2254

Marcia Malone (District 1)  
17700 Basswood Dr.  
Martell, NE 68404  
794-4275

Darlene Tussing (District 4)  
3353 "M" Street  
Lincoln, NE  
HM: 477-5596 WK: 483-3100

Kathy Campbell (District 3)  
6201 Pine Lake Rd.  
Lincoln, NE 68516  
423-3311

Steve Svoboda (District 5)  
636 Mulder Dr.  
Lincoln, NE 68510  
488-6309

## EAA AVIATION EXPLORERS POST #569

Tuesday evening, May 11th, a meeting was held at Cobbler Inn. Don Shoemaker was the speaker, relating stories of his experiences with flying. He also told the background of the Eagles Nest project.

Many of the Explorer members took support sign-up sheets to obtain signatures.

They are looking forward to the picnic with the EAA Chapter on the 6th of June.

## JUST PLANE SICK

It took me a while but I finally admit that I have a problem. I've always heard that the first step toward recovery was to fess up to your problem. I've been going to meetings for years with people who suffer the same addiction. I have a couple of real good friends who's phone numbers I keep close in case the urge gets out of control.

People who are not afflicted with this disease don't understand. They don't understand why anyone would put themselves through so much pain and suffering. They hear us rant, rave, curse and throw things around and just shake their head.

I've seen it from both sides and although on one hand it can cause a great deal of pain and suffering it can also give you great pleasure. You tend to forget the pain, and the pleasure is indescribable and lasts for long periods of time. You remember the incredible rush that comes when your airplane streaks down the runway and hauls you skyward humming along not missing a beat. You feel the rush of the wind and quickness of the controls. You get an incredible sense of accomplishment when you land ever so gently so as not to even notice you're on the ground. Its a feeling you never forget.

Back in 1987 I was starting a business and had very little money. I had to sell my airplane in order to make ends meet. I sold it to a young guy who got interested in flying by riding with a friend of his who had a plane. Soon he was flying every weekend and then he liked it so well he was even flying sometimes during the week!

I knew I had a problem so I knew I had to remove all temptations. I cancelled my subscription to Trade-A-Plane and cleared my library of all such magazines. I was very careful not to look at the classified section in the Omaha World Herald and even skipped looking at the "for sale" columns in Sport Aviation.

I did well for about a year. Then one day I innocently engaged in a conversation with one of my fellow EAA members. He mentioned he knew where there were a couple of old Bellanca 14-13-2's. Just for curiosity sake I borrowed a friend's Trade-A-Plane and began to look under the Bellanca section. It was just to see what was on the market for those suckers who couldn't



resist. I knew it was just a little slip and didn't think it was a big deal. I confided in my friends and they told me to stop. Then the long period of abstinence got the best of me.

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon while on a cross country with one of my students, I dropped in at the Wayne airport. I confess, I slumped to the bottom, fell off the wagon if you will. I picked up the phone, dropped a quarter and called Mr. Wickett and asked if he would let me look at his airplanes. The hair stood up on the back of my neck, my palms were sweating and my heart pumping. My God! He only wants \$6500.00 for the rebuild project. We flew on home and my mind was stuck on that pile of parts in Keith's hangar.

When I got home I raced into the house and told Mary what I found. "You're sick, sick, sick," she kept saying. "It's all I ever wanted," I said. She replied, "All you ever wanted before was a Pitts, PA-12, Cherokee, Cessna, Tri-Pacers, Luscombe, etc., etc.." Then I said, "Yeah, but they just appreciate in value, come on, it'd be great. It'll only take up a little space in the basement, and just think, when its done we can fly home and see your folks.....heh! heh!" "You're nuts," she said, "Get a hold of yourself." She was right of course. Trembling, I dialed up my friends in hopes they could talk some sense into me. "Hello Ed! Help me please, tell me why I shouldn't even think about buying an old Bellanca Cruiseair basket case." Ed said that Bellanca was one of the best airplanes ever built. Ed was no help. He only made matters worse. "Hello John! I need help. I've fallen off the wagon

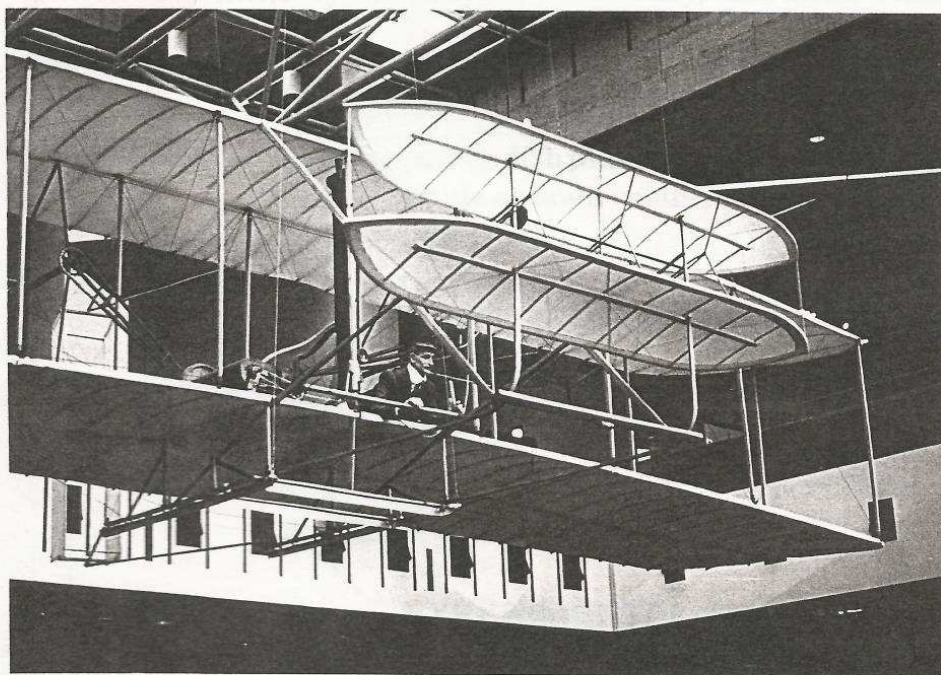
and need help getting back on. Tell me all the bad things about the old Bellanca Cruiseair." "Darn nice flying old airplane," John said, "wish I had one."

That did it. One more phone call to Mort, my friendly banker. I was delighted to know that Mort would loan the money to buy the plane, but I knew I would need more to finish building it. Let's see, who do I know who's as crazy as me? Ken. "Hello Ken!" "Do you know what a 1947 Bellanca Cruiseair is? It's a nice 4 place airplane with a retractable landing gear and it goes about 400 M.P.H.." I heard Jodi in the background ask who was on the phone. Ken said its just Jeff. Jodi screamed, "hang up! He's poison, he probably has some hairbrain idea about some old airplane!" Ken said "yeah but it goes 400 M.P.H. and we can fly home and see your folks...heh! heh!" I knew Ken was one of us. "Let's go get it" says Ken. Us airplane junkies just got a fix.

A year and a half later, after a lot of cursing, ranting, raving and throwing things, Ken and I got our old Bellanca together. Our wives are just now talking to us. We're having fun flying around to flight breakfasts having everyone come up and ask what kind of airplane that is. Yes, we're having fun and feel proud of an airplane that took us a year and a half to restore. We've flown it for 2 years now. Come to think of it, one of these days we ought to fly our wives back home to see their folks.

The End.

Jeff Clausen



I just returned from Washington D.C. last week. Everyone should have the opportunity to visit our nation's Capitol at least once. The monuments, memorials and government buildings are inspirational. However I also obtained considerable inspiration from the Smithsonian's Air and Space Museum. Seeing the original Wright Flyer and Spirit of St. Louis made my imagination come alive.

Roger Aspegren



# CALENDAR

May 1-2—Nebraska 99's monthly meeting and airmark the Bloomfield and Creighton airports.  
 May 2—Nebraska City Fly-in breakfast 6:30 A.M.-10:00 A.M.—Nebraska City, Nebraska  
 May 2—Midwest Aerobatic Club Sportsman Contest—Seward, Nebraska.  
 May 15 & 16—SAC Museum annual historic airplane "Crawl Thru 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. For more information call (402) 292-2001—Bellevue, NE.  
 May 16—EAA Chapter 562 annual spring Fly-in, fly-market and hanger feed 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M. For more information call Jim Hunt (308) 532-1417—North Platte, Nebraska.

**June 6 - Chapter 569 Picnic**

June 12 & 13—Nebraska Pilots Association Polish Fly-in, Loup City, Nebraska.  
 June 13—Laurel Centennial Flight Breakfast, 7:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. free to flying pilots—Laurel, Nebraska.  
 June 19 & 20—Falls City Airshow and Balloon Extravaganza—Falls City, Nebraska.  
 June 20-26th—Annual Creighton Berry Pepper Days—Flight Breakfast from 7:00 A.M.—Harlan, Iowa.  
 June 19-21—Nebraska 99's Forest of Friendship—Atchison, Kansas.  
 June 22-25—99's Air Race Classic Corpus Christi Texas—North Kingstown, Rhode Island.  
 June 25-27—Buffalo Stampede Balloon Rally—Kearney, Nebraska.  
 June 27—Pender Flight Breakfast 7:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M., Fly-ins eat free, Pender Airport—Pender, Nebraska.

July 2-4—Midwest Aerobatic Club July 4th contest-Seward, Nebraska.  
 July 11—Tekamah Flight Breakfast 8:00 A.M.-NOON free to pilot fly-ins-Tekamah, Nebraska.  
 July 24 & 25—Offutt Air Force Base Open House Featuring the Blue Angels—Bellevue, Nebraska.  
 July 25—Crete Fly-in Breakfast 7:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. for more information call (402) 826-5156—Crete, Nebraska.  
 July 28-Aug. 1—Lawyer-Pilots Bar Association Olympia Village, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, in conjunction with the EAA Air show at Oshkosh. Contact David E. Prewitt, 1700 Market Street, Suite 3131. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, (215) 569-0300.  
 July 29-Aug. 4—EAA Sport Aviation Convention & Fly-in-Oshkosh, Wisconsin.  
 Aug. 11-15—The all new Byron's AVIATION EXPO—check with FSS for NOTAMS on the status of the N.E. Polk County Airport—Ankeny, Iowa.  
 Aug. 13-15—John C. Fremont Days & Balloon Rally—Fremont, Nebraska.  
 Aug. 20-22—Alliance Airbase 50th anniversary, Rededication & Fly-in. For more information call (308) 762-5400—Alliance, Nebraska.  
 Aug. 22—The Annual Mapleton Flight Breakfast 6:30 A.M.-11:00 A.M.—Mapleton, Iowa.  
 Aug. 29—EAA #918 Pancake Fly-in 7:00 A.M.-10:30 A.M. Karl Stefan Memorial Airport for more information contact Jim Rosacker (402) 675-1302—Norfolk, Nebraska.  
 Sept. 21-24—Trans-Nebraska Balloon Race, North Platte, Hastings, Seward.

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