



EAA CHAPTER

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• A LOCAL CHAPTER OF THE EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION — BOX 229, HALES CORNERS, WISCONSIN 53130 •

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MAY NEWSLETTER

MAY MEETING: The May meeting of Chapter 569 EAA will be held Tuesday May 6th at 7:30 PM at Duncan Aviation in the second floor employees lunch room. Jim Smisek will present a program on antenna placement in aircraft and do's and don'ts in electrical wiring of aircraft. Two films, "The EAA Story" and "American Sportsman" (Pitts 52S aerobatics) will also be shown. Should be an interesting evening. Plan to attend.

MEMBER ROSTER: Your newsletter editor is in the process of compiling an updated member roster. It is anticipated that the roster will be available distribution at the May meeting or for inclusion in the June newsletter.

NOTES FROM HEADQUARTERS: A bill has been introduced by Congressman Holland (Iowa/S.C.) to repeal the tax on use for civil aircraft - HR 5620. The bill if passed would repeal the tax instituted with the enactment of the Airport and Airway Revenue Act of 1970. This was just one of many taxes imposed by that statute to provide revenue for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund - a fund that has now reached an imposing 4.84 billion dollars. The tax is levied on all civil aircraft and the IRS seems to have found a new zeal in their efforts to collect the tax. So far the bill has not received any support from Congress. It is worth supporting - please take a minute to write your congressman indicating your interest in having him support this bill.

MORE TAXES? In a special letter from EAA Headquarters we were advised of an April 16th public hearing on the status of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and on related legislative proposals dealing with taxes deposited to that fund. The proposed taxes would be both retrogressive and punitive! Tax increases in any form, on any user of the airspace and airway system of the United States, at this time, would be grossly unfair and illogical in view of the fact that there is now 4.84 billion dollars in the fund. The fund is due to expire on July 1, 1980 and under present law is responsible for taxes on air passenger tickets, air freight way bills, international departures, general aviation user fees, etc. Carter's budget for fiscal year 1981 recommends an extension of these taxes at the present rate plus the following:

- 1) The present 7 cent per gallon tax on GA fuel be changed to a 10% advalorem tax on the retail price.
- 2) The addition of a new 6% excise tax on sales of GA aircraft.
- 3) The addition of a new 6% excise tax on sales of GA avionics.

Charging that General Aviation does not pay its fair share of user fees, the House Budget Committee wants to substantially increase the annual user fee for fiscal 1981. The committee claims that GA pays only 15% of the services it uses and they want to increase user fees to the point where we will be paying 50% by 1981.

In spite of the fact that the hearing date has passed, it is imperative that you write or phone your congressman and express your opposition to these proposed taxes. The next few weeks may be critical and your support could well affect the final outcome.

LINCOLN GENERAL AVIATION ASSOCIATION: A meeting of some 35 interested GA boosters was held on Friday April 11 at Duncan Aviation for the express purpose of determining whether the aviation community could help their cause by forming an organization to represent the collective thoughts of those Lincoln area people interested in improving the status of GA. Everyone in attendance agreed that an association of some sort was necessary if GA is to survive and prosper. Hopefully such an organization would have more clout in countering unfair legislation like the proposed new excise taxes than a group of individuals acting singly on their own.

A committee was selected which met on Tuesday April 15 to formulate guidelines and recommendations. The next meeting will be held Thursday May 15 at 7:30 PM at Duncan Aviation to elect officers and confirm a name for the organization. As a complete mailing list of people interested in GA is not available, it would be appreciated if you would spread the word to your neighbors and friends.

FIRST FLIGHT: Jim Stephens flew his beautifully finished RV-3 for the first time on Sat. April 12th. After a couple of take offs and landings, Jim seemed quite pleased with the performance and handling of his new craft.

ULTRALIGHTS: The Eastern Nebraska Ultralight Association had a good turnout of interested people to view two powered ultra-lights; a Weedhopper and a Skymaster. Unfortunately, the high wind velocity played havoc with any attempts to provide flight demonstrations. Those in attendance enjoyed the shelter provided by the hangar at Arrow Airport.

SILVER WINGS PARTY DINNER: The Nebraska Chapter will hold their get-together on Sat. May 31st at the Lesionaire Club, Cotner & "O" Street, Lincoln. Gather at 6:30 PM with a cash, self serve bar, dinner at 7:00 PM. Those attending should indicate preference of menu, Lesionaire Special steak @ \$8.00 or Prime Rib @ \$9.50. Prices include gratuity and tax. The program includes a film "To Fly". Those interested in attending should contact Al Sasse, 206 Park Vista, Lincoln, 68510. You may pay at the door or include with your reservations.