



EAA Chapter 569

NEWSLETTER

May 1996

President's Message

by Roger Aspegren

I think I've found the solution to low-cost flight. The way the wind has been blowing this spring, I think I can forget putting an engine in my Kitfox and just tie it to a telephone pole. Think of the gas I'd save, and no engine overhauls. I thought I'd run this idea by the tech counselor and see what he thinks.

I think I can forget putting an engine in my Kitfox

As you probably know Wayne Anderson has announced his retirement. I was curious as to the process taken to find his replacement. What I found out was a little surprising. Even though the airport is a municipal airport and supposedly owned by the city, the airport director is not hired or appointed by the Mayor. The airport authority is entirely responsible for searching for and hiring a new director. I'm not sure I have a concern about that but I am con-

cerned about the naming of a search committee which consists of Wayne Anderson, Fred Eiche, Harry Amen, Jim Lauerman and the authority attorney. Note that Phyllis Chambers and Ed Raines are not included, and that 3 of these are non board members. I assume Dale Jensen, who selected these people, will also be on the committee. It will be interesting to see who they submit as final candidates.

Arrangements are progressing on the B-17 tour. If you do not have your historical membership yet, don't delay too long. Call Doug Prange for more information. Wally Peterson gave an excellent presentation to my Kiwanis Club last week on the B-17. If you belong to a service club or another organization I'm sure Wally would be glad

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MEETING: Tuesday, May 7, 1996
LOCATION: Cobbler's Inn
 Shoemakers Truckstop, West 'O' St.
TIME: 7:30 PM
PROGRAM: Our speaker will be Larry Erdkamp. Larry is a Vietnam Veteran and flew helicopters. He will relate some of his flying experiences to us.

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

Wittman Airfield • Oshkosh, WI • 54903-3086 • Phone (414) 426-4800

Editor's Corner

by Mark Turner

Sadness abounds as I write this months article. The crashes of Jessica Dubroff, Charlie Hillard and Brook Berringer have filled the news and stunned the aviation community. News of this sort is hard to take, it is especially hard for a pilot to take. It reminds us that what we do includes an element of risk. Our jobs as pilots is to minimize that risk and to avoid it when it is too great.

The Jessica Dubroff crash created an average of 500 messages per day on the Internet the week after the crash. Most of the messages discussed the question of whether a 7-year old should have been at the controls of an airplane. I strongly believe that the full responsibility of the flight is with the flight instructor, the licensed pilot, who was on the airplane. The last thing we need is legislature that prevents our young people from experiencing and learning the joy of flight.

The crash that took the life of airshow pilot Charlie Hillard

is described as one of those freak things that happen. Charlie had just finished his routine in his 2600 HP Sea-Fury and was rolling out after landing when it appears that the right brake locked-up. The airplane then flipped over onto its back and the canopy collapsed. Charlie was one of the members of the 'Eagles' aerobatic team that retired last year after 25 years of performing together.

Brook Berringer was a local hero to many. He helped guide the Cornhusker football team to its first National Championship over 20 years. He was respected in the community for his service to the schools and hospitals. There is very little information about this crash. Brook and his passenger had just taken off from a grass strip north-west of Lincoln when it appears the Piper Cub stalled and hit the ground.

When any pilot dies I think a little bit of each of us dies along with them. Please fly safe...

Minutes of the March Meeting

By Mark Lucey

The April meeting was called to order by Roger Aspegren at 7:33 PM on April 2. Guest were introduced and Mark Lucey gave a treasurers report. Project reports: Doug Prange got both wings covered and his engine ordered, Terry Carlson twisted a spark plug head off and can't get it out, Lester David has started his new project, Bud Davidson had his engine overhauled by Clay Champuex.

Video and book sale, need to order tonight. May 25 to July 6 weekends are work times to get ready for Oshkosh

fly-in. Pegler still wants an airplane for display. June 9th is our Young Eagles, should we have it a Lincoln or at Shoemakers.

B-17 news, fly-in will be Sunday July 7th, Friday the 5th will be a barbique. George Meyers says that the Legion newspaper is a good place to advertise for B-17 crews. Should we have T-Shirt/Caps/Nametags for the event?

Larry Craig from the FAA started his presentation at 8:15 PM

Is GPS Taking Over?

by Steve Lukehart

As GPS becomes more widespread, a timetable has been set to phase out marine and aviation navaids. First to go will be Omega scheduled to be turned off by Oct 1997. Next is Loran which despite protests by every marine and aviation organization, will be closed down during the year 2000. ADF stations will begin phase out starting in 2000, with final shutdown no later than 2005. VOR/DME and ILS shutdowns will begin in 2005 and be completed by 2010.

Prez Still Sez...

(Continued from page 1)

to talk to the group. Talk it up everywhere you go, we want this to be a BIG event.

We starting taking pictures for our photo board at the last meeting. We will continue at the next meeting so bring a smile. If you have any ideas on a mounting board for the pictures please let me know.

Don't forget about our Young Eagle Day which is planned for June 9th at the Municipal Airport. If you are a pilot and are planning on participating, please let Rick Cooper know. We are planning on another YE event in conjunction with Crete airport's open house probably in August.

Hoover Headlines Oshkosh Airshow

From The Internet

R.A. "Bob" Hoover, who regained his medical certificate after more than two years off the American air show circuit, will be among the top aerobatic performers participating at the 1996 EAA Fly-In Convention in Oshkosh, Wis. EAA OSHKOSH '96 will be held August 1-7 at Wittman Regional Airport. Hoover, who last flew at EAA OSHKOSH in 1993, joins more than 40 performers who will participate throughout the week in the Convention's daily afternoon air shows. "It's great to have Bob Hoover back flying air shows, especially at Oshkosh," said Convention Chairman Tom Poberezny. "Bob maintains the standard of ability and professionalism to which other performers strive. Just as EAA was among Bob's earliest supporters in his struggle to fly again, we are pleased to host his EAA OSHKOSH performance after the return of his medical certificate."

The 1996 EAA OSHKOSH air shows feature more than 40 of the world's top aerobatic performers. Among those joining Hoover on the schedule are a number of Russian aerobatic stars who will also be flying in the World Championships in Oklahoma City in Aug. 1996; three-time National Aerobatic Champion Patty Wagstaff; the elegant aerobatics of the French Connection; and Sean D. Tucker, who will performing with a new airplane. The daily performances also include team and solo acts, wingwalkers, skydivers and military aircraft.

Prior to each afternoon's air show, a full "showcase" flying program will be held, featuring aircraft of all types, including homebuilts, antiques, classics, contemporaries, warbirds, ultralights and seaplanes.



Young Eagles Report

Well, after a heated discussion at the April meeting it seems that we will be holding our June 9th Young Eagles day event at the Lincoln Municipal Airport. Pilots who can fly that day and have an aircraft available should contact Rick Cooper as soon as possible so he can be assured of having enough airplanes.

I would again like to challenge each and every member to bring 2 Young Eagles to this event. Everyone knows 2 young people. Children, grandchildren, neighbors children, co-workers children - all of these are potential Young Eagles!

Lets all work together to make this the most successful Young Eagles program that Chapter 569 has ever had.

We are also planning a second Young Eagles event later in the summer. This event will probably take place in Crete along with the open house there in August.

**Remember, if you have time to fly, you
have time to fly Young Eagles**

Charlie Hillard Killed in Accident

Charlie Hillard, who with Tom Poberezny and Gene Soucy thrilled air show audiences for 25 years as the Eagles Aerobatic Team, was killed Tuesday, April 16, in an accident following a solo aerobatic performance at the Sun 'n Fun EAA Fly-In at Lakeland, Fla.

According to the preliminary NTSB report, "Hawker Sea Fury aircraft (#N222CH) was landing after a performance at the Sun 'n Fun airshow. The aircraft brakes reportedly locked, the aircraft veered off the runway and flipped over. The pilot/sole occupant suffered fatal injuries and the aircraft has substantial damage."

Polk County (Fla.) Medical Examiner Alexander Melamud concluded Hillard died of "positional asphyxia" after "his chest and back were compressed by parts of the cockpit."

Hillard, 58, had logged 42 years and more than 15,000

hours of flight time. Some of his accomplishments included:

Member, U.S. Skydiving Team, 1958

National Aerobatic Champion, 1967

World Aerobatic Champion, 1972

Leader of The Eagles Aerobatic Team, 1971-1995

EAA OSHKOSH air show boss 1991-1995

Funeral services were held Monday, April 22, in Fort Worth, Texas. Memorials may be directed to the Aviation Heritage Museum in Fort Worth or the EAA Aviation Foundation in Oshkosh, Wis.

Poberezny had the following comments following Hillard's accident: "Charlie Hillard was a world-class aviator. He was a world aerobatic champion, the leader of the Eagles Aerobatic Team for 25 years. He was just totally immersed in aviation."

EAA Chapter 569

May Newsletter

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Chapter Notes

- The Chapter meeting this month will be at the Cobbler Inn. Larry Erdkamp is a Vietnam Veteran and flew helicopters. He will relate some of his flying experiences to us.
- The *Coming Home* Tour will be in Lincoln July 4-8 - Committee assignments have been made. Things should be rolling along. If you have any questions or problems contact Mark Lucey at 484-8460.
- **Parts is Parts.** Mark Lucey is starting a building project and is looking for the following items: AN hardware, Instruments, Wood, Glue. If anyone can help Mark with these items call him at: 484-8460
- Clay Champoux has a VJ-24 hang-glider for sale. 80% complete, make offer. Call Clay at 423-3798.
- There will be a public hearing on May 8 at 1 PM. This hearing will be regarding the county planning department changes affecting private airstrips in Lancaster County. Information will be available prior to the hearing by contacting Mike Dekalb with the planning department. The meeting will be held in the City/County building in the council chambers on the first floor.

Coming Plane Stuff

May 7

Chapter 569 Meeting • 7:30 PM
Cobbler Inn • Shoemakers Truckstop

May 8

County Planning Department Hearing
City/County Building - Council Chambers

June 9

Young Eagles Day - Lincoln Municipal

July 4-8

The 1996 Coming Home tour stops in
Lincoln, NE

August 1-7

Oshkosh '96 • Oshkosh, WI