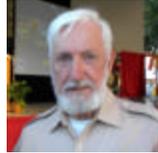


www.eaa252.org

June 2005

Oshkosh - Sport Aviation Capitol of the World

	<p>President: Steve Lark 920-688-2941 skylark7@aol.com</p>		<p>Treasurer: Frank Friedman 920-237-3536 frankzip@charter.net</p>
	<p>Vice President: Charlie Becker 920-426-1854 cbecker@eaa.org</p>		<p>Secretary/Newsletter Editor Doc Mosher 920-727-1534 docshop@tds.net</p>



REGULAR CHAPTER 252 MEMBER MEETING

**Saturday, June 4th
 3:00 pm**

**Joe Norris's new hangar on the Eastside of Wittman Airport
 next to the Sonex complex**

May Chapter Meeting featured Mary Jones

The May 12th Chapter meeting at the Sonex facility was very well attended, and had several new members. Mary Jones, editor of EAA's *Sport Pilot* magazine, talked about her experiences at the recent Aero 2005 Trade Fair in Friedrichshafen, Germany. This is the largest such general aviation event in Europe. Mary had a number of clear photos of the event and its people, and had pictures of some very interesting new light sport aircraft. Friedrichshafen is steeped in Zeppelin history, and she talked about that.

After the meeting, a number of members toured the Sonex facility, including the newest buildings. Great program, good attendance.

Chapter Board Meeting - Thursday, June 2

The Chapter Board meeting is always scheduled to be on the **first Thursday** of each month. The meeting is a **7 pm** and is held at **Westside Pizza** on 20th Avenue in Oshkosh.

The regular monthly Chapter member meeting is scheduled for the **second Thursday** of each month at various locations. However, this coming meeting will be held on a Saturday afternoon - see front page for details.

New members

Chapter 252 would like to welcome two new members - Mary Liebhauser of Oshkosh and Christopher Ott of Appleton. Try to make the time to meet and greet our new members.



Special Eagle Flight arrives on Memorial Day

Pilot Jared Aicher will arrive in his Cessna 172, along with some folks promoting EAA's Aeroscholars program. The flight, designed to fly to some 60 cities in each of the lower 48 states, is promoting the Young Eagle program. While here, Jared will fly at least 3 local Young Eagles (weather permitting). Frank Friedman is the coordinator for this event (237-3536), since the media will be covering it. He could use an extra helping hand that day.



Sport Aviation Association "gathering" June 10-11-12

The annual gathering of SAA members will be held at Frasca Airport in Urbana IL. This is a member-only affair, but you can join on the field. There is always a great group of airplane people and airplanes. To join, call Doc at 727-1534 or George Blechel at 235-8744.

Chapter 252 Work Weekend - June 4 & 5

EAA is expecting Chapter 252 to do its part to ready the grounds for AirVenture 2005. We will be doing whatever the tasks are for those two days (painting, mowing, hauling, etc.). Call Steve Lark (688-2941).

Ol' Tattered Wingtips

Here we go again. In the last week, according to the local Gannett papers, the Wittman Airport manager, Ruth Elliott, has "hired Evanston, Illinois based ComAvia to raise the airport's profile in the community, work with airport users and provide a fresh perspective on ways the airport can grow. . . Robert Mark, CommAvia's founder, said he's ready to help provide those perspectives for the airport."



Aviation Committee Chairman Tom Pech "said he hopes ComAvia succeeds in raising the airport's profile for businesses, the public and potential new businesses that could benefit from the airport's presence in Oshkosh. He said it's been long overdue."

Robert Mark of CommAvia said he "hopes to gather input from multiple channels to determine how to raise the airport's profile and ways to make it accessible to more people than just airport tenants and aviators."

We wish Bob Mark the best, and will be happy to be working with him. We still have the bad taste from several "consultants" that former Airport Director Duncan Henderson paid a huge amount of County money to, with the encouragement of County Executive Jane VanDeHey.

Although there were written contracts, the contracts were not complied with, periodic written reports were not made to the County, and nothing of value ever came from that entire expenditure over a two-year period. Citizen attempts to get the Airport management people to get the consultants to produce written reports, as required by the contracts, were stonewalled by the Airport Director and the County Executive. The

previous consultants were supposed to be working on making the Airport more financially self-sustaining. Some members of the Aviation Committee at the time pressured them to get additional airlines to serve Oshkosh, and that became the primary objective. Lack of viable air carrier service at Oshkosh was due to a lack of passenger demand, but the efforts made some media noise at the time, as if something were actually getting done.

We like Bob Mark, he seems knowledgeable and open. The amounts to be paid to ComAvia, along with the periodic written reports, are public information, as is the length of time for the contract to run. We should all work with ComAvia to make their work as productive as possible. These things will take time, but there should be some results for the County money expended. Wittman Airport is a tremendous asset to the area, and its benefits to the citizens should be shown.

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Help Gina get ready for AirVenture!

Each year during AirVenture, there is a "Teacher Day." Training materials are distributed and school teachers are shown how to integrate aviation into their school curriculum. On **Saturday morning, June 4th**, these teacher information packets will be assembled in the EAA Leadership Classroom. Usually, the task is complete by noon.

Gina needs some willing hands for a few hours, rain or shine. Call 426-6570.

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Warbirds return their T-34s to the air

After nearly five months on the ground, the T-34 Mentor fleet is slowly working its way back into the air. The T-34 Association and the FAA, working together have a one-time 60-hour window to fly until a permanent solution can be worked out. Certain restrictions apply, but the airplanes can be flown.

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Put a little fun in your life!

The AirVenture Museum now has **KidVenture** going full blast. During the AirVenture week, they need some volunteers to work 4 hour shifts. KidVenture is open from 9am to 3:30 during AirVenture. Training and lunch are provided. Want a cool place to volunteer during those hot AirVenture days? Call Lee Siudzinski at 426-6520.

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Chapter Member Jim Kress is a Sport Pilot Examiner

We have a number of people in our Chapter that are certificated flight instructors who can conduct pilot biennial flight reviews. Now here comes the new Sport Pilot regulation. Jim Kress recently attended an FAA-approved course for Sport Pilot Examiner at Lockwood Aviation in Sebring FL. According to Lockwood and the FAA, Jim passed the training with flying colors, and has returned home as one of the first Sport Pilot Examiners in Wisconsin.

Congratulations, Jim. On being one of the first!

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WWII radium dial instruments pose a problem

At Chino Airport in California, Preservation Aircraft Inc. specializes in old planes and old equipment. Seems that they have collected a whole bunch of WWII instruments and radios, etc., which is great, but the Environmental Protection Agency has condemned the building because the radiation from the instruments with the luminescent radium paint on the dials is some 100 times more than normal. Meanwhile, at least 12 aircraft owners can't get to their airplanes because of the contamination.

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1,212 miles with no engine!

Gordon Boettger has been exploring the unique winds over the Sierra Nevada mountains.

On Easter Sunday, he piloted his 33-year old Kestrel sailplane up and down the lee side of the mountain range, utilizing the wave "bounce" that is generated as the wind rushes down the lee side of the mountains and then bounces back up, carrying Boettger to altitudes above 25,000 feet. On Easter, he flew 1,130 miles. On April 3rd, he racked up a 1,212 mile flight, landing because of darkness after more than 13 hours in the air.

Lift can register more than 1,200 fpm, and outside temperatures are near -40 degrees. He uses oxygen and is very mindful of his equipment, carrying a spare bailout bottle (3 minutes) to get him down in case of oxygen regulator system malfunction. The canopy at those temperatures can ice over completely inside, just from his breath. He carries a transponder, and ATC grants airspace blocks as he flies.

Gordon and his wife Melissa (his ground crew) live in Minden NV. A Navy carrier pilot for a number of years, he is now with FedEx flying the MD-11. He depends on meteorologist Dave Armstrong to alert him as to when the weather will be right, and calls towpilot Mike Moore at Soar Minden to set up a tow. Old soaring hand Bob Semans downloads the flight info and sends it off to the Soaring Society of America to make the records official. A "glider kid," Gordon soloed in a glider at age 14.



Karl Ort - York, Penna

Any kid who was interested in aviation in the late 30s will have a déjà vu when he reads that headline! Karl Ort was the source for all kinds of aviation items in those years. His catalog was an encyclopedia of aviation "stuff," His little catalog, priced at a dime - "send a dime to Karl Ort" - was a door to dreams for airplane kids. And a lot of people bought stuff from Karl. Hisso engines sold for \$97 each. Karl had clothing, and kids all wanted to buy helmets and goggles, but money was tight. Today a Karl Ort catalog sells for between \$40 and \$75, depending on condition.



TSA - again . . .

The fourth nominee to be presented as the person to head up the TSA is a fellow named Edmund S. Hawley. A non-aviation government career guy for the most part, he will succeed Admiral Stone, who is stepping down. TSA, whose grief was predicted from the very start, has had a rocky road all the way. Has the **Transportation Security Administration** really accomplished anything? Now we are hearing that Congress wonders if the TSA official government employees are any more efficient than the rent-a-cops that the airlines used before. Lots of money spent, not a lot to show for it.



Vickers Vimy en route to Newfoundland for trans-Atlantic flight

The Vickers Vimy replica that flew 15,000 miles from England to Australia in 1994, then 9,000 miles from London to Capetown in 1999, is ready for adventure #3 - retracing the first nonstop aircraft crossing, made by the British team of Alcock and Brown in 1919. The open cockpit airplane, which thousands saw here in Oshkosh at AirVenture, left California on Thursday, May 19, and plans to make a stop in Oshkosh on the way to St. Johns, Newfoundland. There will be additional stops in Toronto and Ottawa.

The airplane will spend some time in St. Johns preparing for the ocean flight. They plan to take off for the transAtlantic journey on June 14, the anniversary of the original 1919 flight. The airplane is powered with two Orenda 600 hp engines.

At the controls will be Steve Fossett, who recently flew around the world solo nonstop for a new record, and Mark Rebolz, a veteran Vimy pilot and 747 captain. Rebolz has logged some 800 hours flying the Vimy, usually at 1,000 to 2,000 feet above the ground. They will navigate using only a sextant and compass (like Alcock and Brown). The trip from St. Johns to Clifden, Ireland should take some 24 hours at about 100 mph.

Why? Because they wanted to commemorate the first Vimy crossing back in 1919, with the tributes to those brave fliers who dared to be the first. Rebolz says "We're not setting any records. It's a tribute to early aviation."

For details and flight following, go to www.vimy.org.

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EAA 252 Chapter House

Here are photos of two concepts for a Chapter House. One is the building at the Central County Airport in Iola, where each Thursday noon a dinner is served for flyin/drivein guests and local fliers. It is equipped with a complete kitchen and many serving tables. The walls are covered with aviation memorabilia.. It contains very adequate rest rooms.



This other photo shows the building for the Menasha Area Soccer Club, located at 1251 Earl St. in a sports park.



We already have a sizable building fund and should be finding a location for such a building.

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EAA Chapter 252 Calendar of Events

Saturday, June 4th, 3pm - Regular Chapter Member Meeting, New hangar of Joe Norris, Eastside of Wittman Airport next to Sonex complex

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 10-11-12 - Sport Aviation Association Gathering at Frasca Airport, Urbana, Illinois

Saturday, June 11, all day - EAA Motorcycle Rally, Pioneer Airport

Saturday, June 11, all day - International Young Eagle Rally, Pioneer Airport

Saturday, June 18, all day - Ultralight Day, Pioneer Airport

Saturday, June 25, all day - Wings & Strings Kite Festival, Pioneer Airport

Thursday, July 7, 7:00 pm - Chapter Director Meeting - West End Pizza 20th Ave. in Oshkosh

Thursday, July 14, 7:00 pm - Chapter 252 Member Meeting - Sonex - Chuck Lukas

July 25-31 - EAA AirVenture

August - No Chapter 252 Meeting

Doc Mosher, Editor
1071 Meadow Lane
Neenah WI 54956



Iola Chapter House interior