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March 2005

Oshkosh - Sport Aviation Capitol of the World

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This month's newsletter is being sent to members after the normal Chapter 252 Member Meeting, which was held at Sonex on Thursday night, March 10th.

The late edition was due to circumstances beyond the control of the Editor and Publisher.



President's Message

Steve "Sky" Lark

If you were able to attend our annual Chapter banquet, I suspect that you had a very enjoyable time. If not, you missed another great opportunity to meet with other aviation enthusiasts. But don't despair - we have a very nice lineup of monthly Chapter events - starting with our next meeting on March 10th at Sonex. Rusty Sachs will give what promises to be an exciting presentation on something I hope none of us will ever really need - "How to Survive after the Crash."

Total banquet attendance exceeded 150, with a sizable number coming from the Sonex builder workshop group. This year's banquet generated almost \$2,000 toward our Chapter Building Project, and many people walked away with some great items. These included two roundtrip tickets from Midwest Airlines, a Vision of Eagles leather jacket (EAA), and many other great items! Our guest speaker, David Reeves, gave a very informative illustrated talk on his aviation family history in Alaska.

If you haven't already heard SpaceShipOne will be making its first, only, and final public visit this summer at AirVenture (where else?). This is truly history firsthand, so be sure to see and touch this historic spacecraft built by fellow EAA'rs.

(Editor note: Late news says we will also have Steve Fossett's "Global Flyer" here at AirVenture.)

Steve . . .

Larry Marks 1921-2005

On February 15, Larry Marks, always a friend of Chapter 252, passed away. Larry flew a B-17 in WWII based in England, and stayed in the Air Force in Europe until 1948, when he returned to Oshkosh and Kimberly-Clark. In 1980 he retired from K-C and started his own flight school at Wittman Field, Valley Aviation. Larry had a hand in the flight and ground training of dozens of local pilots, and was always available for discussion about flying. The community will miss him.

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Julie Clark presentation Saturday, March 19, 1:00 pm AirVenture Museum

At more than 25 airshows each year, Julie Clark and her Mopar T-34 thrill audiences all over the country, including AirVenture at Oshkosh. Her famous "Serenade in Red, White, and Blue" uses wing tip red, white, and blue smoke, with a beautiful musical background.

She has been doing airshows for 25 years, and has always had the same sponsor. Julie is a retired Northwest Airlines captain, and has some 27,000 accident-free hours.

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Rosemary Gibson 1925 - 2005

Rosemary, wife of Joe Gibson of Oshkosh, longtime good friend of Chapter 252, passed away in January, after a short illness. Our condolences, Joe.

**Ol' Tattered
Wingtips**
Pylon Editor,
Doc Mosher



A few months back, we wrote about a new venture between the Navajo Nation and Utilicraft Aerospace of Georgia, where the Navajo Nation would put up 34 millions of dollars to fund the building and FAA certification of a two-engine cargo airplane. The idea was to have the airplane built in New Mexico by the tribe, and supposedly there was already a sales order for a number of the completed airplanes from a cargo company. Your Editor took a rather pessimistic view of the whole operation, but wished everyone well.

Now comes word that after some other folks looked at the venture, the tribe was advised to use extreme caution. Now the tribe has listened to the New Mexico Economic Development Council, and has backed away from the proposal.

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Europe's second largest airline, Deutsche Lufthansa AG is considering filing a lawsuit to seek redress for the losses it says it incurred due to President Bush's recent visit to Frankfurt. The airline had to cancel 92 flights scheduled to carry over 5,700 passengers due to German authorities' decision to close Frankfurt Airport for several hours. Over 300 hours of delays also affected additional 330 flights due to the domino effect.

Many other businesses were also seriously affected by the security lockdowns. Traffic on 24 km of the Rhine River, Europe's busiest waterway,

was halted, as well as 15 km of traffic on the River Main. The estimated waterway losses could be as high as 500 million Euros. "We have an understanding for security, but the complete closure of shipping to the very congested Rhine and Main rivers burdens the industry beyond measure and goes way too far."

Four highways into and out of the city were also closed for up to four hours, and the center of the city of Mainz, where Bush met with Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder, was closed off, seriously damaging businesses in the area.

The closure of the Frankfurt Airport was "ordered" by the US Secret Service two days before Bush's visit, even though they had previously told the Germans such a measure would not be needed. The closing of the airport was to allow the convoy carrying President Bush to cross airport runways and take the shortest routes to and from their destination, and to avoid the thousands of German anti-Bush protesters in the streets..

"Massive reference to the serious consequences this plan would have on flight operations failed to change the Secret Service's position," said the DFS, the company that operates the German air traffic control system.

Appleton and Oshkosh thought they had their extra security and business costs due to the recent political candidate visits.

Kind of reminds one of Cleopatra's Royal Barge.

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Calendar of Events for 2005

(Subject to Change)

January - 2005

13th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / Sonex / 7pm / Sport Pilot/Light Sport Aircraft

February - 2005

5th - **Saturday** - EAA Eagle Hangar / 6pm-10pm - Annual Aviation Community Banquet

March - 2005

10th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / Sonex / Wilderness Survival (Rusty Sachs)

April - 2005

5th - **Tuesday** - Monthly member meeting / EAA Museum / 7pm / Steve Wittman biography (Aaron King)

May - 2005

12th - **Thursday** - Monthly Member meeting / Sonex / 7pm _____

June - 2005

4th - **Saturday** - Monthly member meeting / Joe Norris' Hangar / 7pm / Open House and Hangar Talk

July - 2005

14th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / EAA Homebuilder Hq / 7pm / Gyroplanes (Chuck Lukas)

25th thru 31st - EAA AirVenture

August - 2005

NO MEETING

September - 2005

10th - **Saturday** - Monthly member meeting / Munsil Williams' Airstrip / 11am / Annual Corn Roast

October - 2005

13th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / Sonex / 7pm / _____

November - 2005

10th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / EAA Weeks Hangar / 7pm / EAA Weeks Maintenance Facility Tour (B-17, Ford TriMotor, other EAA aircraft)

December -2005

8th - **Thursday** - Monthly member meeting / Sonex / 7pm / Airworthiness Inspections (Joe Norris)

Chapter 252 Activities Calendar

Thursday evening, March 10 - Chapter meeting - Sonex Hangar - East end Wittman Airport - Rusty Sachs on Wilderness Survival

Saturday, March 12, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm - Open house at EAA's Weeks Hangar - 20th Street, Oshkosh

Saturday, March 12, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm - Open cockpit day - EAA Museum

Saturday, March 19, 1:00 pm, Julie Clark presentation - EAA Museum

Thursday evening, March 24, 7:00 pm - Chapter 252 Director meeting

Tuesday evening, April 5, 7:00 pm - Chapter meeting - EAA Museum - Steve Wittman's biographer, Aaron King

Saturday/Sunday, April 9/10 / 10:00am to 5:00 pm / EAA Eagle Hangar / Model Airplane Weekend - (Sat. 9-3 Radio control ground school, (Nicole@426-6135)

Saturday - April 16 - 10:00 & 1:30 pm - Member only tours of EAA Museum storage areas with Ron Twellman (Call Mary @ 426-6880)

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