

www.eaa252.org

September 2005

Oshkosh - Sport Aviation Capitol of the World

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Chapter 252 Annual Corn Roast and Picnic

The Annual Corn Roast will take place on Thursday evening, Sept. 8th.

**We will meet at the Elo Areodrome in Pickett (Munsil Williams' farm)
at 6:00 pm.**

**Bring a dish to pass, and your own silverware. Paper plates will be
available, and cold drinks will be provided.**

**Jim Casper is looking for two volunteer cooks to help him to be on site at
5:00 pm.**

It's a family party. Bring a friend or two.



President's Message
Steve "Sky" Lark

Another AirVenture Oshkosh has come and gone. I hope you were able to attend this year.

If not, be sure to plan some time next year. Everything about the convention was great.

Talking about events, the planning for our annual Chapter banquet is ready to get started and we need some volunteers to help get things ready. The event is scheduled for Saturday evening, February 4th, 2006. Mark your calendars! If you can help, please contact Steve Lark at 688-2941.

EAA is holding a B-17 Fantasy Camp for three days - December 2 through 4. Our Chapter has the opportunity to host a special B-17 tour stop for Oshkosh. Flights in this historic aircraft will be offered to EAA members and to the public. As a sponsor, our Chapter receives a portion of the proceeds that will go toward establishing a permanent home for Chapter 252 in Oshkosh. In addition, the top five or six volunteers will have the opportunity to ride in the B-17 to its next tour stop!!! (return transportation not provided). If you are interested in volunteering to help with the B-17 tour, please contact Steve Lark at 688-2941.

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On-Line Chapter Operation Resource Library

The Greeks had a word for it - EAA has a pamphlet on it! EAA has a complete library of valuable "how to" pamphlets available on your own computer when you punch up www.eaa.org/chapters/resources/references/default

A lot of topics are covered and you can look over the list to see which ones would help you to make Chapter 252 an even better organization.

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The commodity market

We understand that Jim Kress and Mike Hackwith were recently checking into bean futures with actual onsite inspection.



Jim and the bean stalker

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AirVenture 2005 was the best yet!

Yes, attendance was the best yet, probably due to the display of the record-breaking aircraft on the West Ramp, which brought in the public.

Our members were part of the many volunteers that made the whole event come off so well. The airplane parking crew did great, as we heard comments about them.

As usual, the local parties were the best. The Schmitz party was particularly well attended, what with airplane and old car people getting together. Doc would have been happy. Thanks, Barb.

The Monday through Sunday schedule seems to fit very well. This year the West Ramp drew thousands of spectators because of the attractions like SpaceShip One and Steve Fossett's solo nonstop round the world aircraft (another Rutan design). The last day (Sunday) is traditionally wind-down day, but even so, the crowds turned out. Aero-News suggests that "if EAA wants to get even more people out on Sunday in coming years, they ought to print a discount coupon in the Northwestern (Oshkosh's paper) or circulate it through local merchants about two weeks in advance. You could give them big bucks off admission and make it up on concessions."

Aero-News also singles out EAA's Dick Knapinski as a "nice guy." They say "This guy juggles an amazing plethora of activities

and concerns as one of the most pivotal members of Poberezny's senior staff and brings with him a sense of professionalism and the ability to get things done that leaves him nearly without peer in this industry." Some kudos from fellow journalists.



Jim Sonnleitner is an AirVenture 2005 winner!

With than 30 entries in the 2005 EAA Patch Jacket Contest, Jim Sonnleitner was announced the winner at the Saturday night Theater in the Woods show. Jim had replaced his original jacket due to a lack of room to display his new EAA patches. Jim says that "I'm good now for eight more years of AirVenture patches!" Ever the volunteer, Jim says every patch has its own stories.





(COURTESY OF JOHN M. MILLER) Test pilot John M. Miller with the Kellett KD-1 Autogyro prototype in 1937. All directional control for the KD-1 was provided through a unique tilting rotor head.

John Miller, your past is catching up with you!

Most of us have met Johnny Miller, who is a once-in-a-while visitor at Elo airstrip, and was recently a guest at Pioneer Airport's *Ol' Fashion Days*. John is in his late 90s, and can tell some interesting tales. He was there.

We ran across a newspaper article recently that included one of John's aviation exploits, but as usual, Amelia Earhart got the headline along with a photo. John has always felt that she was quite overrated as a pilot, with a string of broken airplanes. We reprint the article here.

One time a reporter wanted to confirm that John had actually looped an autogyro. When he asked John about it, John said "In which state?" It turned out that John had demonstrated the Pitcairn's looping and other aerobatic abilities in each of the original 48!



(Pioneering aviator Amelia Earhart poses on June 4 in front of her autogyro in Rock Springs, Wy., during a refueling stop in her coast-to-coast flight.)

Earhart flies coast to coast in autogyro Los Angeles, June 8, 1932

Amelia Earhart, the noted airwoman who wed George Putnam last February 7, arrived here today believing she was the first to fly across the USA in an autogyro. But Johnny Miller of Poughkeepsie, New York in a Pitcairn PCA-2, the same model as Earhart's beat her to the honor last week.

Earhart was disappointed. Her flight was delayed several weeks while she recovered from a tonsillectomy. She plans to return to New York immediately to become the first person to make a west/east transcontinental autogyro flight. Earhart, who claimed a world altitude record for autogyros of 19,000 feet on April 8 at Pitcairn's airfield at Willow Grove, Pennsylvania, is sponsored by the makers of Beechnut chewing gum. With Beechnut Gum boldly stenciled on its sides, the autogyro is a flying billboard. As she crossed the country, Earhart and her mechanic Eddie de Vaught distributed giant packages of gum.



A. Scott Crossfield

Many of our Chapter 252 members have met Scott Crossfield, the legendary California test pilot, during his visits to Oshkosh. Your editor ran across this newspaper article from November of 1953. It tells of one of Crossfield's record flights.

*California, November 20, 1953
Civilian test pilot A. Scott Crossfield today flew from Edwards Air Force Base at over twice the speed of sound - Mach 2.01, or 1,291 mph - at an altitude of 62,000 feet. Crossfield's Douglas D-558-2 Skyrocket was released in the thin upper atmosphere by a B-29. Crossfield called for a long burst of rocket power in level flight to reach his phenomenal speed. On August 21, the same aircraft was flown by US Marine Lieutenant Colonel Marion E. Carl to a world record altitude of 83,825 feet, after being released at 37,000 feet.*

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2nd Annual German Wings and Wheels - Saturday, September 10
Pioneer Airport - 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

See more than 150 classic German cars on display at this special event celebrating the finest in German automotive and aeronautical style! There will be a special showing of German airplanes from the Museum's collection, and a number of visiting German airplanes have been invited to participate.

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Chapter members can take an EAA "Attic Tour" on Saturday, September 10 - Two tours - One at 10:00 am, another at 1:30 pm.

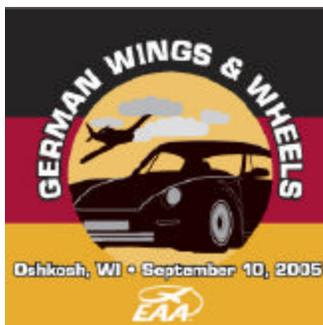
Our members are invited to take a special "What's Behind That Door?" Tour with ron Twellman, EAA's Curator of Collections. Call Mary McKeown at 426-6880 for directions. Each tour will last about 90 minutes.

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Chapter 252 Calendar of Events

- Thursday, Sept. 8, 6:00 pm - Regular Chapter member Meeting and Annual Corn Roast
And Picnic - Williams Airstrip - Pickett WI
- Saturday, Sept 10, all day - German Wings and Wheels Day - Pioneer Airport
- Saturday, Sept 10, 10:00 am and 1:30 pm - "What's behind that door?" member only tour of
EAA's attic and storage areas
- Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sept 23,24,25 - Vintage Biplane Fantasy Camp - EAA Pioneer
Airport and other facilities
- Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Sept 30, Oct 1,2 - Spirit of St. Louis Fantasy Camp - EAA
Pioneer Airport and other facilities
- Thursday, Oct 6, 7:00 pm - Chapter 252 Director meeting - Westside Pizza - 20th Ave, Oshkosh
- Saturday and Sunday, Oct 8, 9 - Fall color flights in the Ford TriMotor
- Thursday, Oct 13, 6:00 pm - Chili picnic - Wayne and Kathy Daniels house - Redbud Lane,
adjoining Eastside of Wittman Airport.
- Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, Oct 14, 15, 16 - Ford TriMotor Fantasy Camp - EAA Pioneer
Airport and other facilities
- Thursday and Friday, Oct 29, 30 - EAA's Haunted Hangar family party

Doc Mosher, Editor
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2nd Annual German Wings and Wheels
Saturday, September 10, 2005
EAA AirVenture Museum, Oshkosh, WI
9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.