

EAA 252 OSHKOSH Steve Wittman Chapter

Issue
March 2010
3/8/2010

Oshkosh – Sport Aviation Capitol of the World Oshkosh – Sport Aviation Capitol of the World Oshkosh – Sport Aviation Capitol of the World Oshkosh – Sport

Next Chapter 252 Meeting

March 11th

**Doors Open at
6:30 PM
Meeting starts at
7:00 PM**

(Wear Your Chapter
Name Badge)

Sonex Aircraft
511 Aviation Road
**Wittman Regional
Airport**
(East side)

From Oregon St. & Hughes,
take Hughes west to Red
Tail Way, enter through the
security gate. Sonex
Aircraft is straight ahead.

Snacks & treats
are always appreciated!

2010 Dues Were Due as of Jan. 1

**Send \$20.00 to:
Janet Davidson**
3218 Bellfield Rd
Oshkosh, WI 54904

Dues are payable as of Jan.
1st & must be received
before March 31st (to avoid
being dropped from the
Chapter membership).

March Meeting - Gregg Rasske & Balloons

This month's meeting presentation comes to us courtesy of Chapter member Gregg Rasske (EAA 129094), the owner of Majestic Balloons Ltd., based out of Ripon, WI. He will talk about his company, and the balloon ride adventures that they provide. Included will be a 10 minute DVD about the operation.

Gregg became interested in ballooning while stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army. There he took balloon lessons and helped out as a crewmember. After the Army he joined the aviation program at Gateway Tech in Kenosha, and received his Private Pilot certificate. He bought his first balloon in 1978, received the appropriate ratings (Private, Commercial, and Instructor Lighter Than Air) and started giving rides. Since then he has safely flown thousands of passengers. For more information, visit their website at www.wisconsinballoon.com.

Gregg still occasionally flies fixed wing, and is a member of the Winnebago Flying Club (previously the Pegasus Flying Club). He presently has no plans build an airplane - but you never know... He does participate in the EAA Young Eagles program. Gregg first joined up with EAA in 1979, and has even had his balloon at the EAA Fly-In on display.

We haven't seen him at many Chapter meetings as they have often conflicted with his Scout meetings. Gregg and his wife Sue do participate some of the special Chapter events, and hope to be able to attend more meetings in the future. He is an instructor for the Wisconsin Department of Corrections, and is active in Boy Scouts (along with his son Gregg), and Sue works in Oshkosh as a dental hygienist.



*Photo
courtesy of
Majestic
Balloons Ltd.*

S. J. (Steve) Wittman Birthday Fly-In Breakfast THE Event for April.

On April 10th from 7:30 to 11:00 A.M. Oshkosh's local EAA Chapter 252 will host a pancake breakfast fly-in to commemorate legendary pilot and aircraft designer S.J. "Steve" Wittman's 106th birthday. This event is open to the public.

Held at the Wittman Regional Airport Terminal building on 20th St., the event features a breakfast of sausage, eggs, beverages, and all you can eat pancakes. Those attending can fly-in or drive-in. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under the age of 10. Pilots of homebuilt aircraft that are flown in will get free breakfast.

WE NEED YOU!

To help promote this event!

Given the time of year – good flying weather is always requested but not always granted (it is Wisconsin...). So, we may need to depend a lot on local attendance from drive-ins. **PLEASE do print off extra copies of PAGE 4 and distribute to any local businesses or other organizations that are willing to promote local events. THANK YOU!**

From 8:30 to 10:30 A.M. Chapter 252 will host a Young Eagles Flight Rally, where our volunteer pilots will explain how their airplanes work, and how safety is their prime concern before every flight, etc. **PILOTS** – contact our Young Eagles flight coordinator Eric Von (contact info on page 6) if you are able to participate.

Several individuals who have researched Wittman's career and accomplishments will provide presentations about the legendary pilot at 9:00 and 10:00 A.M.



2010 Chapter Calendar and Wittman Airport Events

March 11th

Chapter 252 Meeting at Sonex
Greg Rasske, Hot Air Ballooning

March 13th

Light Sport Aviation Safety Seminar
At EAA Air Museum, Founders
Wing, by FAA Safety Team

April 10th

Wittman Birthday Fly-in Breakfast
Wittman Airport Terminal

April 24th

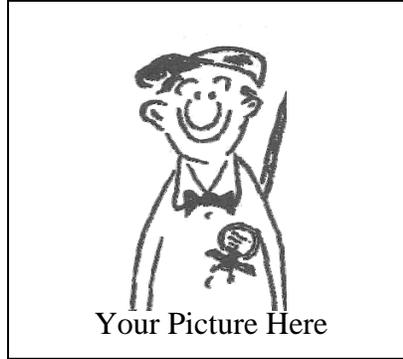
Fox Valley Tech Fly-In Breakfast
Airport Campus

For Wisconsin aviation events check out
the calendars at:

<http://www.eaa.org/calendar/>
and

[http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/air/
fly-ins.htm](http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/travel/air/fly-ins.htm)

Welcome New Members



Your Chapter officers understand how hard it is sometimes for newer members to become introduced to the rest of the group, and so we do try to welcome each new member through this short monthly column.

IF, you have joined recently (in the past year or so) and we did not introduce you to the Chapter via this newsletter – please contact the Newsletter Editor (see page 6). We do our best, but we could have missed someone. Thank you.

FAA No Longer Mailing Airworthiness Directives

By Dennis Moehn

As of March 1, 2010 the FAA will no longer be mailing Airworthiness Directives (ADs) to aircraft owners or operators. If you want to continue to receive AD's for your aircraft you now must sign up to receive them electronically or pay to receive the paper biweekly issue of all new AD's. To sign up for this service go to, <http://rgl.faa.gov> where you will be asked to enter an e-mail address and to set up a password. Once you are logged in to the site you will be able to select the Aircraft, Engine, and propeller models that you want to receive AD's for.

Two things that are often misunderstood about Airworthiness Directives are that; it is the owner- operator's responsibility to maintain a record of the status of all applicable AD's that apply to his aircraft, and **AD's that apply to components that are installed on experimental aircraft must be complied with.** FAR part 91.417 States that each owner or operator shall keep a record of the current status of all

applicable airworthiness directives. FAR part 39.15 States that an AD applies to each product identified in the directive even if the product has been changed or altered. Therefore a pilot who flies an experimental category aircraft with a certified engine or other component that an AD applies to, must comply with the AD.

I understand that this is more information than you probably wanted to know right at this moment but better safe than sorry.

FVTC Fly-In Breakfast

Dennis Moehn notified us about the annual Fly-In breakfast that is put on by the students and instructors from the airport campus at Fox Valley Tech. In the past this has provided visitors with a good opportunity to see the facility and talk with the students. These students have taken the next step beyond introductory programs like EAA's Young Eagles. These individuals, many still new to aviation, are our next generation of aviation professionals. They appreciate your support.

Directions to KOSH from the air

Request: "Taxi to tech"

East on Delta Taxiway

Marshals will guide you to parking

Directions to Spanbauer Center from the ground

3601 Oregon Street

Oshkosh, WI 54902



THIRD ANNUAL

Pancake Breakfast Fly-In

FRENCH TOAST!



Join us for our third annual fly-in/drive-in breakfast
We will be hosting an open house and safety seminar
Come for the food...Stay for the fun!

Saturday April 24th, 2010

7 AM to Noon

Airport Identifier: KOSH

Menu:

Texas French Toast

Strawberry Topping & Powdered Sugar

Scrambled Eggs

Bacon & Sausage

Coffee, Juice, Milk, & Water

Cost: \$8.00

(RSVPs are appreciated to huss@fvtc.edu)

(See reverse side for directions)

Safety Seminar

Changing of the Seasons

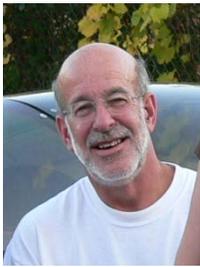
How to Prepare for all Weather

10AM to 11AM

Room 104A



President's Message



By Wayne Daniels

WOW!! The annual "Community Celebration of Flight" banquet was a rousing success judging by all of the positive comments I heard from attendees. The meal was praised by many with the only negative comment being temperature of food by some, however the variety and taste was enjoyed. The new setting in the Founders Wing, although not surrounded by the wonderful aircraft in the Eagle Hangar was still a special place to enjoy aviation camaraderie. Again John Monnett emceed the evening, with his usual wit and ability to keep the program on schedule!! Thanks John!

The evening was topped with a terrific presentation from Maj Gen Pat Halloran on his career flying high altitude reconnaissance aircraft with an accompanying slide show. It was amazing to see the inception of that program with navigation that is primitive by today's standards, from such a sophisticated airplane though clearly it was a challenge to fly!

This year's "ELO Award, for recognizing an individual's contribution to grassroots aviation was to be presented to George Rotter. Unfortunately George was not in attendance, so we will ensure that George receives the plaque and knows that the chapter sincerely appreciates his grassroots efforts and assistance over the years to many, many builders in the area.

Charlie Becker is finalizing the numbers from the banquet attendance as well as the silent auction. We had in the neighborhood of 180 attendees that enjoyed the evening, and took home some special items from the spirited bidding from our silent auction. While I don't yet have the final numbers, I am confident that the bar has been raised for next year's banquet. Thanks to all who attended and a special thanks to Janet Davidson for orchestrating the event and all those who helped with that! We have not yet selected a program for next year, so if you have a special presentation that you would like to enjoy, please make a

Chapter 252 and the Bonzo Rebuild

Photos courtesy of Mike Butler

In 1983 Chapter 252 took on the project of refurbishing the Wittman Bonzo to make it more presentable for display in the EAA Museum. The goal was to have it finished for the new museum's dedication at the end



of July.

Many Chapter members pitched in over many months, sometimes two nights per week, and with Steve Wittman's guidance and help, got the job done.

The tasks were split up. The fuselage work took place near downtown Oshkosh in Joe Scheibinger's old Parkway Garage location. The wing work was accomplished in Mike Butler's personal garage, north of town on Island View Drive. The basic sub-assemblies, with fresh Grade A cotton fabric and butyrate dope were then moved out to

suggestion to any board member!

Now we are looking forward to the March chapter meeting when Greg Rasske gives us a presentation on Hot Air Ballooning. While the balloons will not rise to altitudes of an SR-71 or U-2, I am sure this will be a great presentation. Hope to see everyone there as we head into the Spring flying season.

Of course the April chapter activity will be our annual Steve Wittman birthday celebration and pancake breakfast. Breakfast chairman John Egan will be looking for volunteers to help pull off yet another successful pancake breakfast, so please offer him some time for the April 10th event. If you can't wait for him to ask you to volunteer, then just go ahead and beat the rush by emailing him at johnegan99@yahoo.com I'm sure he will welcome it!

2010 Chapter 252 renewals should have already been made. If you haven't renewed, please see Janet Davidson! We have a busy year ahead, and the more of us involved will ensure another successful chapter year.



That's George Rotter in the back, trying on the canopy for size!

Wittman's private hangar where a top coat of Red and Silver Imron enamel was applied and final assembly took place.

The more technically experienced Chapter members naturally assumed leadership roles, and the younger members enjoyed the opportunity to learn from others while working on a piece of aviation history. Mike Butler recalled doing the fabric work with George Rotter, and what a unique experience it was to work with Wittman and listen to some of his stories about flying Bonzo. According to Mike - Covering the airplane and doing all the rib stitching was a lot of fun - and sitting in the airplane was "intimidating".



S.J. Wittman, and Chapter 252 members pose with Bonzo, looking better than it had in years.

Wittman Birthday Fly-In HELP NEEDED!

4/9/10, Friday night, if you are available, check with John to see if help is needed setting up equipment.

4/10/10, Saturday Morning 6:30 A.M. for volunteers for final set up and start cooking. We will start serving at 7:30 A.M.

If you are able to help out, please contact John Egan at johnegan99@yahoo.com, or 920-419-5631.

Fly-In

Aircraft on Display!

Show cars on display!

Drive-In

Steve Wittman Birthday Party **Pancake Breakfast**

April 10, 2010
7:30 – 11:00 A.M.

Wittman Airport Terminal
20th St. Oshkosh, WI
ATIS – 125.9, TWR 118.5



**Pancakes (all you can eat),
Sausage, Scrambled Eggs,
Milk, Juice, or Coffee**



Adults \$6.00*
Children under 10 - \$3.00

* Free for pilots of homebuilt
aircraft who fly in.



Come celebrate the life of
Steve Wittman,
aircraft designer and race pilot.
Presentations on Wittman's contributions
to aviation will be at 9AM and 10AM.

FREE AIRPLANE RIDES!
(EAA Young Eagles)
For kids ages 8 – 17,
9:00 to 11:00 A.M.

Hosted by EAA Chapter 252
The "Steve Wittman Chapter"
Oshkosh, WI
EAA252@gmail.com
www.EAA252.org

EAA 252
OSHKOSH
Steve Wittman Chapter

February Chapter Banquet



Featured Speaker Maj. Gen. Pat Halloran

In February the Chapter conducted its annual Celebration of Flight Banquet instead of a regular meeting. Held in the EAA's Founders Wing section, this year's event was very well attended and everyone seemed to have an enjoyable time. It was good to visit with friends, some we had not seen in quite a while.

The meal was an interesting and tasty combination of different serving areas located in different areas around the room, and there were many worthy items for the silent auction. Many thanks to Chapter Secretary, Janet Davidson for coordinating the event.

The presentation by Maj. Gen. Pat Halloran was very interesting, and he had no problem keeping everyone's attention throughout. If you missed it, you can still watch his presentation by following the link on the Chapter website at EAA252.org.

Thank you to all who attended, you helped to make it yet another great Chapter event!



Though not available to receive the presentation, George Rotter was this year's recipient of the "Spirit of Elo" award.



This year's meal was catered in by Sodexo, associated with Ripon College



Chapter member Jim Soyk recorded Pat Halloran's presentation, which can be viewed by following the links from the Chapter website at EAA252.org.



Janet Davidson, event coordinator; and John Monnett, MC, kept the evening schedule on track.



Chapter President Wayne Daniels acknowledged the efforts of the Chapter Officers and Advisors. Photos courtesy of Muffy Bryan.



Our thanks to Maj. Gen. Patrick Halloran for flying in from Colorado to spend an evening with us.



641 Bowen St.
 Oshkosh, WI 54901



**Newsletters Are Available
 On-Line at www.eaa252.org**

Items for submission are welcome and must be received by the newsletter editor no later than 3 weeks prior to the monthly meeting date.

About Us

Our chapter is named after famed aircraft designer, airplane racer and Oshkosh resident Steve Wittman.

EAA Chapter 252 offers the opportunity to share the spirit of aviation with a group of local EAA members.

Our members are mostly people who enjoy the company of others who love aircraft, are fascinated by flight, and appreciate the history of aviation in America. They include r/c enthusiasts, pilots, aircraft builders, and aircraft owners.

Join Us!

Regularly meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM. Dates are subject to change, call to confirm, visit us at www.eaa252.org. Annual dues are \$20 for all current members of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

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