



EAA Chapter 827
November 2010

www.eaa827.org

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Presidents Column

Overcast skies on Saturday, October 16 grounded plans for a fly-out to Bob Peasley's strip just east of Floods Pond. After consuming breakfast prepared by Chef Jeff Russell, members took action on the slate of officers and directors presented by the nominating committee. As your newly elected president, I am looking forward to working with Tim Letourneau and John Miller, who were elected vice president and secretary, respectively. I will also continue to serve as treasurer. These were close races but the campaigning was civil. Phil Burrill and Joel Keller were re-elected to two year terms, and Curt Carter who recently relocated from California back to Maine was elected to a two year term subject to completing EAA membership requirements. Jim Jordan and Jim McCurdy continue in their two year director terms through the end of 2011. Don Cole serves as director emeritus. Jeff Russell has taken on organization of Chapter Fly-Outs, and newest member John Canders will take over publication of the Chapter newsletter from long time publisher Joel Keller. Thank you Joel for your service.

The donated Teal amphibian airplane project was sold for the third time. However, this sale was followed up with payment in full from the buyer. It began to appear that we might make more money on non-refundable deposits than actually selling the project plane. I want to thank the members who made this a reality which improved the Chapter's savings account. See related article on details of the sale elsewhere in this newsletter.

The first "Miller's Field Mess Night" was held Wednesday, November 10 with social time beginning around 5 PM followed by an excellent menu prepared by Jeff Russell (his chef's hat confirmed that he must be a real chef). This column is not long enough to print the entire menu but, for example, the main course was "market fresh ground hamburger, hand pressed and dimpled, prepared Chef Bobby Flay style, seasoned and grilled, ... etc.". Sides included Alabama style baked beans, New York style hand cut and cold soaked Native Maine russet potato French fries, and New England style coleslaw. Joining the other 15 attendees was Gary Satterlee, from southern California, who came to Maine to ship the Teal project airplane that he recently purchased from the Chapter. On that eve of Veterans-Armistice-Remembrance Day all veterans in attendance were recognized, some more reverently than others. Jeff, you're a kitchen magician! Thank you for pulling off a memorable mess night.

Plans are to install a gas kitchen stove in the corner beside the electric grill. Don Hansen offered to help with that installation. This reminds me that through the tireless effort and financial support from many Chapter members we now enjoy a renovated meeting facility for monthly meetings and social gatherings. Members contributed cash gifts of \$1,628 toward total renovation project costs of \$2,854. And many members spent many hours working on the project over a number of months.

Thank you all for your support of EAA Chapter 827!

Dan Coffey

Monthly Chapter Meeting Dates, Times and Locations:

Chapter Meeting - This month's meeting will be at the chapter clubhouse on Saturday the 20th starting at 9:00am.

Wagabond Builder's Group - Most Wednesdays nights from 6:00 to approximately 9:30. Call Don Hansen for more info.

Teal Aircraft and Parts Sold

(Submitted by Dan Coffey)

Thanks to Tim Letourneau, Lin Randall, and John Miller the Teal Aircraft project and parts donated to the Chapter last year have been sold. Part of the proceeds have been used to improve the Chapter's facilities at Miller's Field for meetings and gatherings with the balance placed in savings to be used to further the mission of EAA Chapter 827.

Tim worked many hours with the donor finalizing receipt of the gift of the Teal amphibian project airplane. Tim and Lin then travelled to western Maine, picked up the aircraft and many parts, and transported them back to Old Town where Tim arranged to have it stored. Since the Builders Group was knee deep in working on the Wagabond airplane, and there was no immediate plan to tackle the Teal project, the Chapter decided to sell the project airplane.

John Miller took photos of the aircraft and parts, listed them on eBay, and diligently attempted to sell them. The dip in the economy resulted in a soft market for this project airplane. The aircraft went through auction three times before a successful sale.

The first successful bidder told John after the sale that his wife threatened to leave him if he took the money out of their bank account to pay for the airplane he successfully bid on (so hopefully we saved a marriage). Another successful bidder gladly wired a \$500 nonrefundable deposit, but then backed out of the deal (probably another domestic intervention). The third fellow sent a \$1,000 deposit on the successful bid of \$4,000, then called to say his wife was not very happy because she felt he had purchased a "death trap", but after six days the remaining \$3,000 showed up in the Chapter checking account via wire transfer (hopefully we didn't create another domestic dispute).

In summary, total proceeds from sale of the aircraft, a propeller, and parts were \$5,910 minus expenses of \$692 resulting in net proceeds of \$5,218. Expenses were for pick up, transportation, and eBay fees. After applying \$1,382 toward renovations and improvements to the meeting facilities, the balance of proceeds from sale of this donated asset brings the Chapter savings account to a little more than \$5,800.

In the News ...

Rutan to Retire Next April - EAA Plans Tribute at Oshkosh 2011

(from e-Hotline)

Burt Rutan, EAA 26033, founder and chief technical officer of Scaled Composites, Mojave, California, announced this week he would retire in April 2011 and assume the title of Scaled's founder and chairman emeritus. EAA, which had already begun planning to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Burt's Voyager aircraft around the world flight, will feature a full Salute to Burt Rutan as one of its main themes at AirVenture Oshkosh 2011. Always among AirVenture's most popular presenters of all time, Rutan, 67, is best known for his unique, innovative airplane designs, many of which were first seen by eager homebuilders at annual Oshkosh conventions over the years.

RUNWAY INCURSIONS DROP BY HALF

(from Flying emagazine)

The FAA announced recently that the number of serious runway incursions at the nation's airports dropped 50 percent from 2009, the second consecutive year that the number of serious incursions was cut in half. The number of serious runway incursions at the nation's airports dropped from 12 in the 2009 fiscal year to six in the 2010 fiscal year, which ended on Sept. 30. The new figures reflect a steady, significant improvement in runway safety over the last decade. In the 2000 fiscal year there were 67 serious runway incursions. Of the six incursions this fiscal year, three involved commercial aircraft

P-39 RECOVERED FROM RUSSIAN LAKE AFTER 66 YEARS

(from e-Hotline)

A Bell P-39Q Airacobra, built in a western New York state factory in 1943, has returned home after resting at the bottom of a Russian lake since 1944. This particular aircraft was sent to the Soviet Union under the United States' Lend-Lease program, which propped up Allied forces with war materiel before and after the U.S. entered World War II. Miss Lend-Lease, as it has been named, served in a frontline Soviet Air Force squadron along the border with Finland. The discovery is rare since remains of the pilot along with key artifacts, found with the aircraft, have provided insights into the mystery of why the aircraft suddenly broke formation as the squadron repositioned to an airfield closer to the front 66 years ago.

Commercial Space Travel Takes One More Small Step

(from Flying emagazine)

"Now, the sky is no longer the limit," exclaimed Virgin Galactic's Sir Richard Branson with his customary overflowing enthusiasm. He spoke Sunday at the Mojave (California) Air and Space Port on the occasion of the first free flight of VSS Enterprise (nee SpaceShipTwo), the commercial spacecraft designed to take fare-paying passengers to the edge of space. Designed by Burt Rutan, who stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Branson during the event, VSS Enterprise was released from its mother ship (aptly named Eve) at 45,000 feet above the high desert terrain, then glided to a safe landing 11 minutes later. At the controls were pilot Pete Siebold and copilot Mike Alsbury. The business end of the flight confirmed several parameters predicted through computer projections and simulations. They included stall behavior and general flight characteristics. Branson said, "We will begin the process of pushing beyond to the final frontier of space itself over the next year."

Wagabond Builder's Group

Covering continues. It takes a fair amount of time to create an airworthy surface covering whether you use aluminum and rivets, fiberglass cloth and resin, or tube and fabric. The best part is that when completed, it really starts to look like an airplane.



Above: The reinforcing lacing that is used to prevent the stitches from pulling through the fabric.



Below: The moment you realize that there is something you need to do inside the wing....