



EAA Chapter 827
September 2008

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Presidents Column

Chapter 827 is no longer homeless! Members who attended the special meeting two weeks ago made a near unanimous decision to purchase the hangar which Peter Mead had for sale. This hangar, unlike our previous home, is built on solid ground and will not tip over after a few years of winter freezes. The Cub Café is included on the north end and a larger room and shop on the south end. There are a few legalities and technicalities yet to be sorted out, but we have a great meeting place for years to come in a setting totally in keeping with what EAA is all about.

Last month in my wandering about in the Midwest I noticed one of those little red squares on the map labeled "Airpower Museum." It is way out in the country near the tiny village of Blakesburg in southeastern Iowa. I had no idea what I would find there, probably thinking the word "Airpower" meant military. Wrong. The museum is the creation of an 84 year old gentleman who presides there every day. There is a little bit of just about everything aviation prior to WWII. It is also the headquarters of the Antique Airplane Association and the International Pietenpol Association. There is a nice grass runway and a small hanger full of really old airplanes, some flyable, most not. They have a very ambitious schedule of fly-ins and other events each summer. If you want to spend some fun time at the computer go to www.AntiqueAirfield.com. Nice photos and even some video clips.

Our annual fund raiser for Special Olympics will be at Bangor on Saturday, Oct. 4. Last year did not go well, the Special O folks thought we were organizing the event and we thought that they were. This year Jim McCurdy has applied his considerable organizational skills to the event and it appears we may have all we can handle. So if you can either fly or serve as ground crew please be on hand.

GONE WEST

We bid farewell to Peter Marini, aviator and gentleman, who left us in August at age 91. Peter was an active and valued member of Chapter 827, serving as our president for a term when he was well into his eighties. He also accompanied Don Cole to many elementary school classrooms where they educated scores of youngsters about what makes an airplane fly and other aspects of aviation.

Jim Corliss

Monthly Chapter Meeting Dates, Times and Locations:

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

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

Fly-In and Flea Market at Millers Field:

Punctuated by a Cessna 185 that got stuck while trying to taxi to the parking area and a Piper Cub that provided nearly as much excitement taking off as it did trying to land, the fly-in at Miller's field was a success. Thanks to all who helped plan, prepare, setup, cook, serve, tear down and clean up.



EAA Chapter 827 has a new home:

The members voted to purchase the Cub Café and associated buildings from Peter Mead. Once the papers have been signed, the chapter will officially have a place to call home. Once ownership has been transferred, there will probably be some things that we will want to do to make it 'ours' as well as to prepare for the coming winter.



In the News ...

PILOTS NEED A CLEAR SIGNAL ON ELTs

(From AOPA online)

U.S. aircraft owners are stuck in the middle, so to speak, of three different stances from the United States, Canada, and Mexico on whether to mandate that aircraft be equipped with 406-MHz ELTs. Currently, the FAA is not planning to mandate the 406-MHz ELT. Canada and Mexico plan to require the unit, although Mexico has agreed to an alternative for U.S.-registered aircraft. AOPA opposes any mandate for the 406-MHz ELT, believing that the option should be left to pilots. The issue is heightened because satellites will stop monitoring 121.5 MHz, on which most ELTs transmit, on Feb. 1, 2009.

MCCAIN VP NOMINEE HAS GA CONNECTIONS

(from AOPA online)

Sen. John McCain's choice of running mate, Gov. Sarah Palin of Alaska, has a positive association with general aviation. Her husband is a pilot and an AOPA member. Considering that GA is the primary form of long-distance transportation in the forty-ninth state, it's not surprising that Gov. Palin has taken a stand against user fees. In May 2007, she signed an AOPA-backed resolution in opposition to the FAA's plan for excessive avgas taxes and user fees

MEMBERS URGED TO COMMENT ON '51% RULE' PROPOSAL!

(from EAA online)

The homebuilder community needs your help! The FAA has proposed changes to the Experimental Amateur Built rules that EAA believes will negatively impact the homebuilt movement.

We are urging all EAA members to do two things:

1. Comment on the FAA's proposed changes;
2. Spread the word - tell other builders and get them to comment.

The FAA's stated goal was to better control commercial activities that reduce the amateur builder's actual involvement in the project to less than the "major portion" (51%) required by the regulation (Ref: FAR 21.191 (g)). EAA is concerned that the proposed changes place significant burden on our members who are building within the letter and spirit of the regulations while doing little to address excessive commercial assistance and "pro building".

Time is of the essence! Comments must be submitted by 30 September.

Wagabond Builder's Group

I have not been able to make it out to a builder's group meeting in a while so I asked Don to fill me in on what's been going on in the last few weeks. He reports:

...The seats are ready to be installed and the seat covers put on. Last week we cut and fit plexiglass for the rear windows and one of the door windows. The stainless outer shell for the muffler has been machined and the inner muffler tube is scheduled for the next meeting as well as the second door window. The tabs for the fuselage stringers and the instrument panel are being welded on and the bottom fuselage pan and boot cowl can then be made.

The photos below are from the Greenville Fly-in and were taken by John Miller.



*** Don't Forget ***

The EAA 827 Special Olympics Fly-In
Saturday Oct 4th (RAIN DATE Oct 5th)
9a.m until 2p.m.
Pilots and Aircraft needed