

EAA CHAPTER 80 NEBRASKA IOWA



News!

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March 2016

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Spring Cleaning

It's only February and spring may not have officially sprung, but it's certainly visited for a bit. It appears there's going to be another great trip group trip this weekend to We-B-Smokin' to take advantage of the weather. Enjoy it while we can!

With spring, comes the spring cleaning. In the last year I have heard multiple people talk about possibly having a garage sale of sorts for people that have left over 'stuff' from their airplane build. I know I have some 'stuff' that would be much better off in other people's hands, but I also have 'stuff' that could be used and replenished if someone needs a quick thingamajig. I'm not sure a single date sale is the best, as many times you don't know what you need till you need it your first time building. Maybe a list, updated once every blue moon or two, would be the way to go. Any thoughts from the members? Is it even worth doing? I'll bring it up at the next meeting.

I'd like to send out a big Thank You to Ken Bahr for his presentation about Nome Air in January and Bob Condrey on his presentation on silk screening in February. It's amazing how professional the silk screening looks. I thought my label maker was professional looking! Live and learn.

Till next month,
Chris Halfman

February Meeting Minutes

The February meeting was called to order by President Chris Halfman at 7 PM on Feb. 8, 2016 in the main hangar at Oracle Aviation (KMLE).

Minutes: The minutes of the January meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report: Bob Cartwright reports assets of \$10,351.49, with deposits during January of \$37 in proceeds from the 50/50 drawing and \$425 in dues receipts. There was \$1.92 in interest reported. Bob reports that there is a CD that matures soon, and will discuss with the board what to do with that and the two checking accounts. It may be best to combine the accounts. The Treasurer's Report was approved by voice vote.

Membership: Jim Beyer reported that he's sent out information requests to update the membership roster and list. If you have not already responded with your information, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Tech Counselor: Mike Howard reported that there was nothing to report.

Young Eagles: EAA has instituted a Youth Protection Plan for YE volunteers. Effective this Spring, YE volunteers are required to take training and pass a background check. These requirements apply if you plan to volunteer at four or more events per year, OR for more than four hours at one rally. Much more detail is available on the EAA web site, and there have been a couple of updates and changes since the program was first announced. There was some considerable discussion around the requirements of this program, and it is advisable to read the program's details on the EAA web site if you plan to participate in YE activities.

Tools: Jerry is out of town but Bob Cartwright has keys if you need access to Chapter owned tools. So far no one has needed any access since Jerry left for a warmer climate.

Builders Reports: Bob Condrey reports that his RV-10 is coming along nicely. He'll probably be flying some time late this spring; the fuselage is done and he's working on wiring now. Jim Beyer has his Champ flying again after a top overhaul. There is talk of the taildragger club in Plattsmouth possibly buying the Champ, which is LSA qualified. Talk to Jim if you're interested in anything to do with that.

Builders Meeting: Although this will be late news due to the timing of the newsletter, the Builders Meeting will be held on Feb. 27 at Jim Beyer's place.

Flyout Report: Mike Howard reported that there was a very successful flyout on Jan. 30th, with 17 people in 11 airplanes at Norfolk for lunch. Great turnout. On the 7th of January three intrepid souls braved cold temperatures and aggressive crosswinds to attend the soup & chili

feed in Harlan. Two RV-12s and a Cassutt, in formation no less.

It was also noted that there are persistent rumors of Barnstormers in Norfolk closing before long; we hope that does not happen.

Social Coordinator: Chris Beran reports the owners of Oracle are willing to work with us and other groups to schedule events at Millard to make this more of a destination for pilots to fly in and visit. Several options are being discussed, including a chili feed.

Old Business: Mike Howard reports that he's still waiting on dates in late August or early September for the EAA Tri-Motor visit. They're talking to some Ford dealers for possible sponsorships. Mike does have a marketing coordinator and is looking for an assistant chairperson for volunteers and equipment, so please contact Mike if you can help out with that.

There was some discussion of the suggestion last month that Chapter annual membership dues be waived for past presidents. It is felt by most that the dues are low and it's a volunteer organization, so there is no real need for this. The matter has been set aside.

New Business: Tim Hewitt has contacted several places regarding additional folding chairs. Lacking a good source of used chairs, a motion was made and passed to authorize Tim to buy 25 new metal folding chairs from Menard's for \$8.49 per chair.

Announcements: It was noted that Lester Tinnin passed away in January. Several Chapter members attended his memorial service. Lester will be missed.

After the break, **Bob Condrey** gave a presentation on how to silkscreen instrument panels in experimental airplanes. The presentation can be found on the Chapter 80 web site or download.

Respectfully submitted,
Dale Botkin—Secretary

An Aviation Journey

By Mark Miller

I am often asked, especially from friends and fellow teachers I worked with for 30 years, why in the world did I want to build an airplane and fly at my age?



My Dad was a steamfitter by trade, but worked part time for an A&P at the old Council Bluffs airport where the flying bug bit him. He bought a Taylorcraft in need of recovering and his love affair with rebuilding airplanes began.

He got his Private in that Taylorcraft, and some of my earliest memories (around the

age of 3) were riding in the canvas baggage sack behind the seat and flying with him and his instructor to flight breakfasts. I would watch out the window as we took off and overflew the tank farm south of the runway, than fall asleep until we landed and got pancakes!

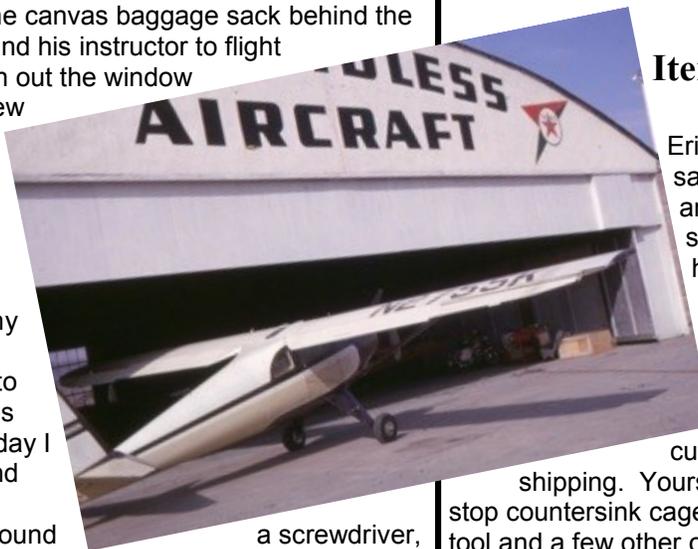
It was shortly after he finished the T-craft that my Dad bought a run down Waco UPF-7 and began to rebuild it. My Mom relates the story about how one day I went out to the garage and found the wings freshly recovered and doped. I found a screwdriver, and loved the percussive sound (I am a musician, after all!) of it piercing the freshly doped cotton. My Mom thankfully saved my life that evening when Dad came home.

I made it up to my Dad by later working with him nights and weekends at the old CB airport on first a Luscombe, and then a 1934 Fairchild C8C (Mom made him sell the UPF-7 to put a down payment on our house). Dad also bought a Waco UIC cabin in pieces to rebuild, and he stored it away. When the old CB airport had to close to build the Interstate on part of it, we moved to the South Omaha Airport (now a golf course). I took my first dual there in a Cub.

Well, I eventually went off to college, married, and had a 30 year career as a High School Instrumental Music director, and Dad became busy as an officer in the Steamfitters union, and our flying and rebuilding days kind of ended, until he retired and built a 30' by 30' shop in his back yard and we started to rebuild the Waco UIC including the help of my 3 boys. Well, fate intervened, and my Dad passed away in 1998 and we sold the Waco to a couple in Ohio.

About ten years ago, I had a gastric bypass and shed about 200 lbs. Now at a weight I could get into an airplane again, I decided to start building a Zenith Zodiac. I have always had that thrill of flying. I got my Light Sport ticket a little over a year ago.

I am now busy with Phase 1 testing, and looking forward to warm spring days and \$50 hamburgers.



Items For Sale

Eric Stadjuhar has some Sonerai items for sale. Complete builders newsletters in print and in cd, plans, wing construction book, slick mag, Great Plains dual ignition 2180 heads, misc items. \$100 for all. Contact Eric Stadjuhar at 402-669-0271.

Dale Botkin has a Poly-Fiber practice kit (Spruce Part # 09-06220) for sale. Nothing has been used. This kit currently sells for \$62.50 from Spruce, plus shipping. Yours complete for \$40. Dale also has a micro-stop countersink cage, C-frame rivet/dimple tool, edge rolling tool and a few other odds & ends for sale. You can email Dale at dale@botkin.org or catch him at the March meeting.



If you were at the Feb. meeting you'll recognize this. If you weren't, you missed a very interesting presentation!

Editor's Note:

I find myself once again apologizing for getting the March newsletter out closer to the Middle of march than the end of February. At least it's not the day before the March meeting!

CHICKEN WINGS





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