



CHAPTER 42 NEWSLETTER

December, 2003

Anchorage, Alaska

Monthly newsletter from Chapter 42 of the Experimental Aircraft Association

FROM THE LEFT SEAT

I look back at a successful year for our chapter and acknowledge the board, members, and guests for their contributions of participation and support. Our organization staffed a booth at the Alaska Airmen's Association Trade Show in the spring, hosted and attended many chapter meetings, visited and met new friends at our annual summer BBQ at Birchwood Airport, and continued the traditional airstrip improvements in the Wrangell St. Elias National Park and Preserve.

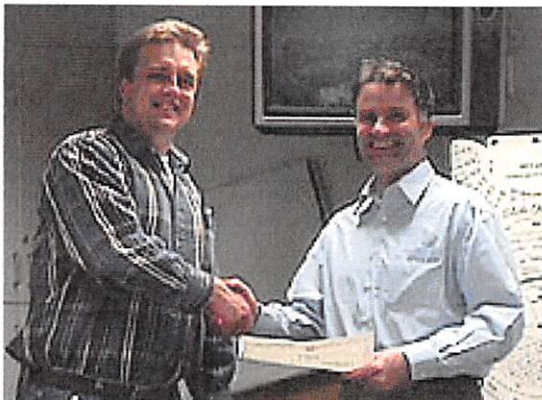
I welcome the addition of new blood to the Board and look forward to supporting the new board and activities to be planned for the following year. Please welcome our new President, Mike Ice, and co-Treasurers/Secretaries Mike Luther and Rob Spoo.

December 17th is the 100th anniversary of controlled powered flight. Many activities are planned to commemorate this life changing event. Visit the Alaska Airmen's Association web site for dates and location of celebration events.

Prior to the next Alaska Airmen's Association Trade Show, I'll start coordinating another trip to the Wrangell St. Elias National Park for more volunteer work at the backcountry airstrip.

It's a busy time of year visiting with family and friends. Please keep in touch, fly safe, and keep warm. Happy Holidays!

Matt



*Chris Gill (l) and
Matt Freeman (r),
outgoing board
members.*

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The votes are in and all the chads are checked. Your new president is officially Mike Ice! Congratulations, Mike, on a fine campaign. Now if only I could find his list of campaign promises.

Other winners at the polls were Mike Luther and Rob Spoo who will share the duties of Secretary and Treasurer. Congratulations Mike and Rob. It should be a fun and interesting year as the new blood begins to lead us into the future. Thanks, guys, for volunteering.

And let us not forget those who continue to serve as board members or in other capacities: Gale Partch as Vice President; yours truly, Tim Rittal, as Newsletter Editor; Dick Brown and Jim Moss as Directors; and Cliff Belleau and Tom Lawhorn as Technical Counselors.

All these volunteers are responsible for our monthly meetings, snacks, newsletters, annual picnic, fly-ins, FedEx booth and many other special events. Take a moment to thank these folks next time you see them.

Speaking of volunteers. I'd like to steal a line from Pat Crisenberry, Newsletter Editor for the Fairbanks (Farthest North) EAA Chapter 1129. She identifies herself as Newsletter Editor (**Not** for life)! I am content to remain in my capacity as editor for awhile, **BUT**, not for life! So if any of you have aspirations for doing the job, let me know. This year, next, whenever.

NEXT MEETING

As customary, there will not be a meeting in December. Our next meeting will be Tues. Jan. 27th, 2004 at 7pm. Place to be announced in the January newsletter.

AVIATION VERITIES sent in by Jim Moss

Though I Fly Through the Valley of Death ...I Shall Fear No Evil ... For I am at 80,000 Feet and Climbing. (sign over the entrance to the SR-71 operating location Kadena, Japan).

You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3. (Paul F.Crickmore, test pilot)

From an old carrier sailor - Blue water Navy truism; There are more planes in the ocean than submarines in the sky.

If the wings are traveling faster than the fuselage, it's probably a helicopter — and therefore, unsafe.

Navy carrier pilots to Air Force pilots: Flaring is like squatting to pee.

When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash.

Without ammunition, the USAF would be just another expensive flying club.

What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; If ATC screws up, the pilot dies.

Never trade luck for skill.

The three most common expressions (or famous last words) in aviation are: "Why is it doing that?", "Where are we?" and "Oh S#!+!"

Weather forecasts are horoscopes with numbers.

Progress in airline flying: now a flight attendant can get a pilot pregnant.

Airspeed, altitude, and brains. Two are always needed to successfully complete the flight.

A smooth landing is mostly luck; two in a row is all luck; three in a row is prevarication.

I remember when sex was safe and flying was dangerous.

Mankind has a perfect record in aviation: we never left one up there!

Flashlights are tubular metal containers kept in a flight bag for the purpose of storing dead batteries.

Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it.

MEET YOUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS

WHY I DECIDED TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT BY MIKE ICE

Free tickets to Oshkosh were the deciding factor in my decision to run for President of Chapter 42. The race to be elected was a tough one and all of my opponents were very worthy and as capable as I. But in the end your support carried me through and I thank each and every one of you for your vote of confidence.

Actually there are no free tickets and no presidential limousine attached to this job. There was just a need for someone to do the job and I volunteered. My response upon being selected was a big GULP and inwardly wondering "what have I done?"

Thank you, Matt, for all of your hard work. It will take me awhile to figure out exactly what a President does and is expected to do. I do not anticipate that you will see any significant changes except at the next meeting. Where Matt used to be the one to dazzle us with his eloquence I will be the one facing down one of my fears, Public Speaking.

Clearance to the Left Seat has been received, now I just have to shoot the approach and nail the landing.

YOUR CO-SECRETARY/TREASURER, ROB SPOO

Rob Spoo, retired Army officer, is now a gainfully employed civil servant working as a division chief with the Resource Management Directorate, Fort Richardson. He also work as a university instructor in his off hours.

An Anchorage resident for nearly 8 years, Rob is looking forward to even more years in this great state.

He is honored to be married to his lovely wife Casey for over 26 years. They are now empty nesters with three grown children.

Rob has a lifelong interest in aviation. He's also a dyed-in-the-wool tinkerer and honey-do project builder. He's gearing up to begin work on his fixed-wing project(s) this winter.

Rob is keenly interested in the grassroots approach of early EAA and especially the activities and hometown flavor of local chapters. He looks forward to working with the chapter members, gaining sage advise from other builders and promoting the EAA cause.

YOUR CO-SECRETARY/TREASURER, MIKE LUTHER

I am Mike Luther and I will be your new co-Secretary/Treasurer for EAA Chapter 42. I will try my best to be of assistance to our new President Mike Ice and to our other officers.

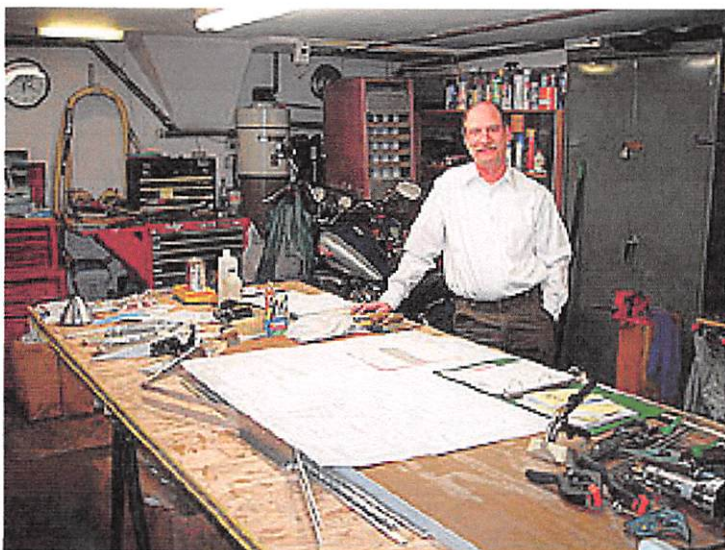
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TECHNICAL COUNSELOR: PROJECT VISIT by Cliff Belleau

I recently had the privilege of viewing Dave Doerner's Sonex project. Dave has just gotten started on his kit and is building the empennage. He has completed some subassemblies. Dave attended a two day builder's workshop given by the manufacturer. He says they have a very detailed website with photos of each part in the aircraft.

The Sonex is two seat cantilever low wing monoplane. The designed engine is a converted Volkswagen engine that is available in kit form from the Sonex manufacturer. The plans appear to be very well detailed and are clearly drawn on a CAD program.

Dave has done a nice job of the work.



Dave Doerner at his shop

TREASURER'S REPORT by Chris Gill

This will be my last report as treasurer for EAA Chapter 42. It has been a fun 4 years and I look forward to assuming different roles in the club. Rob Spoo and Mike Luther will be taking over the financial controls as our new treasurers. For those of you not yet current with your 2004 dues, the new address for submitting dues will be available in the January 2004 newsletter. In the interim, dues may still be sent to: Chris Gill, EAA Chapter 42, 2618 E. 20th Avenue, Anchorage, AK 99508. Dues for 2004 are \$24 for an entire year of meetings and activities.

Calendars: For those of you who ordered 2004 World of Flight Calendars, they have been ordered and should be available during our next meeting. If you can't wait, give me a call at 227-9352 and I'll pre-deliver your calendar as soon as it arrives (hopefully right after January 1, 2004).

CHAPTER 42 OFFICERS

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MONTHLY MEETINGS	4th Tuesday of most months

FLY MART

Free to members. Contact Tim to place an ad: tim@timrittal.com or 907/248-2249.



FOR SALE: New Scott 3200 tail wheel with cub spring. Call Jim at 907/696-3435.

HELP NEEDED: I'm looking for someone to identify "Bushmaster" parts and place a value on them. Call me at work between 6am and 2:30pm at 907/272-3581, after 3:30 at 907/594-5950. Ask for Art Langley. Or e-mail arthurl@mtaonline.net. Thank you!

FOR SALE: Engine/prop, Lyc 0 320EA2, 422 SMOH with accessories and a brand new Skytech starter and newly reconditioned Sensenich 74x56 prop. \$10,000 OBO. Call Herb at 907/345-3431 or e-mail expflyer@gci.net.



MEET THE BOARD (con't)

I have been a member of the EAA since 1994. When I joined I was with the EAA Chapter in Colorado Springs. I had been with the Colorado Springs chapter since 1992. I started on my pilot's license in 1994 and finished in 1996, just before we left Colorado. It took me two years of weekends and driving 40 miles back and forth to Ellicot Colorado, but it was well worth the effort. My wife, our youngest son, my granddaughter and I moved to Alaska in July of 1996.

I am the fellow who is building a 1933 Pietenpol from plans. I got my plans for the plane in September 1992. So it has taken me eleven years to get my pilot's license, work on the plane, remodel our house, rebuild two VW bugs, one Chevy truck, move to Alaska, get a college degree, raise two kids, and work away from home for two years as a carpenter. I bet that sounds familiar to everyone. I just finished the carpentry work on the Abercrombie & Fitch store at the Fifth Avenue Mall. Now I get to work on the Pietenpol for two weeks. I am currently working on the aluminum front cowling for my plane. Cliff Belleau was kind enough to let me use his English Wheel to form the metal. My shop/garage is so packed with fine tools and materials and an airplane that I do not have enough room to change my mind. As soon as the cowling is done for my Pietenpol, then it will be ready to cover. I am hoping for a first flight early next summer.

ODDS & ENDS

I got a call from Bill Wilson of Valdez who is in charge of getting airplanes for display at their upcoming fly-in next May 1st and 2nd. I asked Bill to e-mail me his needs. Read his message below and let's see how many planes we can send down there. Sounds like a great event.

I'm glad I found you in time to get the information/question in your newsletter!

The fly-in is being modeled after the old Gulkana fly-in. We will have similar events: short field take off and landing contest, flour bombing, aerobatics, poker run, and static displays. It will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 1 and 2, 2004.

I am in charge of getting as many static displays as possible. Anyone with a unique or home built plane is welcome to show their plane. Please e-mail me with your name and plane.

I am also building a Zenithair CH 801. I'm 80% complete with only 80% to go!

Bill Wilcox
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