

August, 2009

Anchorage, Alaska

## Calendar of Events

Next

**Breakfast Gathering**  
Sept 12 -Village Inn  
720-Diamond Blvd-  
9:30 a.m.

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**Jack Brown Celebration**  
of Life Aug. 20  
Alaska Aviation Heritage  
Museum  
7p.m.-9p.m.

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**EAA Monthly Chapter**  
**Meetings Postponed until**  
**the August 23th Hangar**  
**Party at Matt Freeman's**  
**@ BCV/Birchwood after 3**  
**p.m.**

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**Young Eagles Flights**  
**on Aug. 23rd at Birch-**  
**wood Airport Starting**  
**at 1 p.m.**

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**Kent White Welding**  
**Workshop**

**Oct 8th, 9th and 10th**

For more information go to:  
<http://www.tinmantech.com:80/>  
Price \$200 per person

## Long time Chapter Member Jack Brown Flies West



Jack Brown with his 1966 Alon Ercoupe

Jack Brown died Sunday Aug. 2 at Providence Hospital after a four-year battle with three different types of cancer.

A quiet man, described as simple yet talented, Jack was never a person to brag or to complain. Perhaps Jack knew that his experiences with flying were special and the rest was just-- well part of a journey, and the final days fighting the cancer were only part of the deal.

His life started in Nome in 1932 when he was born to Velma and Chester G. Brown on Oct. 14.

Chester Brown had moved to Nome with a disassembled airplane to teach famed Kotzebue aviator Archie Ferguson to fly. Brown later sent for Velma who came by ship passage to the Gold Rush City on the Seward Peninsula. John "Jack" Brown was born after that.

Jack had a rich aviation environment that included flying with bush pilots the likes of Chris Christenson when he was a boy.

**Continued on page-2-**

## **Left Seat...**

By Tim Rittal, EAA Chapter 42 President

Just a few months ago your board members had a meeting and we were discussing the need for some new blood on the board. We went around the table asking each member if they planned to stay on the board or help in some capacity. When we got to Jack Brown he said "I can't make any promises but I'll help as long as I can". Little did we know that just a few short months later Jack would no longer be with us. Our friend and board member Jack Brown passed away on Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009 after a long battle with cancer. He will be missed. Please send your caring thoughts and prayers the way of Jack's wife Beverly and his family. Rob Stapleton will include a piece about Jack elsewhere in this newsletter.

Later this month on Sun, Aug 23<sup>rd</sup> we will have our annual picnic BBQ at Matt Freeman's hangar at Birchwood airport. The BBQ starts at 3pm. This year we have added an all new event. A Young Eagles rally will take place starting at 1pm. Ed White is the ramrod of our revived Young Eagles program and we have 4 or 5 pilots lined up to give rides to 16 kids. Ed will be looking for volunteers to manage the kids on the ground between

flights with aviation related tasks and topics. If you can help, contact Ed at 694-7525.

Matt's hangar is on the SE end of the airport. Take the North Birchwood exit off the Glenn Hwy and follow the signs to the airport. After you cross the RR tracks take the 1<sup>st</sup> left and go down almost to the end of the runway to the blue hangar on the right. The chapter will provide hot dogs, burgers, rolls, buns, condiments, and some drinks. Members are asked to bring a dessert or side dish and your own favorite beverage if you don't want our selection of soft drinks.

One last topic. Elections!!!

As you should know by now your board is ready to be replaced. We will be electing a new president, vice president, treasurer & secretary in November. John Davis is the Nominating Committee Chair.

If you are interested in serving in one of these capacities, please contact John at [JDSUEN818@acsalaska.net](mailto:JDSUEN818@acsalaska.net) or 248-4360.

That is it for now.

Get out and enjoy this real summer & see you at the picnic.

**Safe Landings, Tim**

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## **Jack Brown Cont.-**

"Jack told stories of sneaking away, and flying all over with Christenson, who let him fly the plane when he was only 12 years old," said Beverly Brown who became Jack's wife in 1989. "He loved flying and never tired of it. Sometimes while flying the Ercoupe he would say, doesn't this feel good."

Jack served in the Navy from 1951-1955, serving in the Korean Sector as a waist gunner with VP17, flying reconnaissance missions. After the service he returned to Seward to help his parents run the family owned General Motors dealership.

After the service in the Navy Jack married Eleanor Zentmire and they had three daughters.

Later he would become lead operator for Alaska Refinery in Kenai. He also worked in sales for Firestone Tire Co. Brown was with Totem Ocean Trailer Express at its inception and later became operations manager for the Port of Anchorage, retiring in 1991.

Jack had 1,287 hours in his log book many of those hours in the 1966 Alon Ercoupe N6513Q that he loved to fly and cherished. Bev and Jack visited the Sonex factory, as he had always admired the VW powered aircraft and had wanted very badly to build one. Only his illness prevented Jack from achieving this dream.

Beverly Brown said that she and Jack were best of friends and wished that they

Continued on Page 3-

## Left Seat- Continued Pg. 2- Newsletter Update!

The board of directors at EAA Chapter 42 has decided to both mail the newsletter out to members and to post it as a PDF file online at [www.eaa42.org](http://www.eaa42.org). In the interest of saving money if any member would prefer to get the newsletter online as a PDF instead of mailed using the US Postal Service please tell the newsletter editor Rob Stapleton, send an E-Mail to [robstapleton@alaska.net](mailto:robstapleton@alaska.net), or call 230-9425 and decline the USPS hardcopy version

### What makes our club?

Clubs, by definition, are groups of like-minded people who share a common interest. In reality a club is an eclectic assembly of individuals each with a unique perspective of their activity. The dynamic of a club is no different than that of a large family.

Think of your last family get-together and then take a look at your homebuilding club. If everybody was the same, life would be very boring.

In every club there is the usual cast of characters that add their distinctive flavors to the stew and make things interesting. It is diversity that makes a club work well.

## Jack Brown Cont- from Page

had more time together; but that Jack's sickness wore him down and that he suffered far too much in the end.

We at Chapter 42 are sad to see that a member who was liked by all for his manners and gentile ways, soft spoken humor, and pleasant demeanor has flown West and will be missed by all.

Jack was preceded in death by his stepfather, Win Ervin; brother, Chet; and daughter, Bobbie. He is survived by his wife, Beverly; mother-in-law, Florence Teufel; daughters, Laina and Jacquie; stepdaughters, Diane, Laurie and Vicki; and numerous grandchildren and extended family.

**A celebration of Jack Brown's life will be held on Thursday Aug. 20 at the Alaska Aviation Museum at Lake Hood in Anchorage from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and will be hosted by the family and moderated by Joe Hayes.**

**We encourage all EAA Chapter 42 members who knew Jack to attend.**

## Chapter 42 Officers

### President:

Tim Rittal-248-2249  
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### Vice President :

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John Davis 248-4360 (hm)

### Directors at Large

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Jim Moss 243-5151

Chuck May 345-4703

Web Master ([www.eaa42.org](http://www.eaa42.org)):

Walter Yankauskas 345-7206  
[w@waltery.com](mailto:w@waltery.com)

Monthly Meetings 4th Tuesday of  
most months

## Past Time to pay Chapter Dues!

\$24 individual/\$25 family  
Please have your checks ready  
at the next monthly meeting, or  
contact Gene Bjornstad.



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EAA Chapter 42  
**Monthly Breakfast**  
 Second Saturday of every month  
 9:30 a.m.  
**Village Inn and Pancake House**  
 720 West Dimond Blvd.  
 Anchorage

**EAA Chapter 42 Mission Statement:**  
 Promote, encourage and facilitate recreational aviation activities that provide educational opportunities. Have Fun!




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