

EAA CHAPTER 974 NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2003



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THE PREZ SAYS

Wow! Here it is November already. Where has the year gone? You wouldn't have believed the time of year at the November chapter meeting. The weatherman was right on. The temperature was near 80 and some of us were even in shorts and T-shirts. The hangar door was up, and it was great! Our program was great too. Dave Raney walked us through the innards of his small Continental, a lot of which was nicely displayed and labeled. Dave, you are a wealth of knowledge. If it's not electronics, it's engines. Thanks to you for your excellent program this month and for being such a great asset to our chapter!



Dave Does "The Continental"

Speaking of great assets, a big 974 welcome goes to our two new members, Scott Hersha and Kevin Gassert. Scott is a recent past president of chapter 174 and has recently completed an RV-6. Kevin is flying an Ercoupe "warbird". Both call Hogan Field their home. Thanks to both of you for placing your trust with our chapter.

The big election is over and we have our new vice president and treasurer. Ron Forsythe is our vice-president elect and Mark Taylor is our new treasurer. Our congratulations go to you both. Thanks to you and the field of challengers, Ron Gielelghem and George Theobald for allowing your names to be placed in nomination and for giving the chapter good choices for these important offices. We are in good hands!

This past month was busy with some fun activities for the chapter. Our chili cook-off was a big success and well attended. There were 9 varieties of chili ranging from mild to 5 alarm! After gorging ourselves on chili and some great deserts, we hunkered down to watch the "Blue Max". But, I think there was something more important than good food and a movie. There was good fellowship. There is something special about our common love of flying and airplanes. We have a special bond and a camaraderie that really enriches our lives. Thanks to all of you that came, brought food, and shared in the experience. Then, there was the Halloween party that Nancy and I hosted. Several chapter members were there in full costume. There was also a large group from the Tri-State Ultralight Pilots Association. Check out these pictures. There are more on the website. It was a great time!



974 Hits the Chili



Halloween Crazyes at the Dombeks

Some of you who are also members of chapter 174 received an article with the chapter roster written by Scott Hersha. His article really made an impression on me. In it, he talks about the importance of flight testing your homebuilt aircraft. All too often we look at the Phase I flight test period as

a time just to burn holes in the sky while we burn off our 25 or 40 hours to satisfy the Feds. Then we can go tearing off cross country or take friends and family flying. Scott points out that it is really a time to seriously investigate the flight envelope of our newly completed projects and shake out all the bugs. Scott had a number of component failures, some of which required major fixes and re-fits. Like Scott, I needed all the required 40 hours and then some. By the time I changed oil coolers, brakes, propeller and some fuel fittings, I had racked up over 50 hours of flight time. The prop thing was especially time consuming. I was near the end of flight test, when an AD came out on the 2-blade Warp Drive prop I was using. Warp Drive generously took my 2-blade unit in exchange for a new 3 blade, but that meant going through my performance testing all over again. I had to re-do all of my timed-climb and flight envelope testing, including stalls, at various CG settings and weights, up to max gross and aft CG. I had to spend several hours just re-tweaking the prop pitch for best performance. The prop testing and tweaking required more than an additional 10 hours. This did not count the umpteen hours I spent cutting out and painting a new spinner. I won't go into the hours I spent installing a bigger oil cooler and brakes. I felt it was well worth it when I finally made that magical entry in my maintenance log. I could truly say my project was tested and as safe as I could make it. It's something we should all take seriously. Thanks, Scott for validating the work of Phase I Flight Test.

I guess that wraps it up for this month. The December 7 meeting will be our traditional project tours. There are several projects of various types located on the field. The board has recommended that we confine the tours to the field this year, but there is plenty to see. I have already confirmed 3 visits, and there are at least 3 more that I will try to schedule. It promises to be a full day, so I will keep the business meeting short so we can get to the good stuff. Remember that if you have business you would like to present, you are invited to the board meeting, which immediately precedes the regular membership meeting. In the meantime, there is still some good flying weather to enjoy, and, even if you are not presently flying, there is always someone to bum a ride with----like me! So, just come and hang around the field with a lean, hungry look, and who knows, you might just find yourself up there in the wild blue! (Check out the picture of Dave Raney and I below). Hope to see all of you at the December meeting if not before.



Dave Gets Some Stick Time in Buttercup after the Meeting

Happy Landings!
Bob

ONE MORE ITEM FOR THE CHECKLIST

I seem to get this picture sent to me about every 3 months, from friends all over the country. Barry Fear suggested it might be a good one for the newsletter. I thought this would be a good picture for a little contest - Send an email to ea974@yahoo.com with your idea for the best caption for this picture. I'll post all the captions with the names of the person who sent it, on the website. Oh yes, don't forget to add this as one more item to your preflight checklist - you never know when you might need it.



Staying Out of the African Sun

George Deeb
Contributing Editor

Board Meeting Minutes - Nov. 2, 2003

Attendees:

Bob Dombek Ray Parker Tom Linfert Bill Conn
Barry Fear John Taylor Paul Kurtz (guest) John Statt
Dave Raney

The board meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bob Dombek at 1:15 PM. The meeting was held in Hangar T-5-H, Hogan Field, Sunday, November 2, 2003

Minutes of the Meeting:

Bob Dombek presented a preliminary draft of the calendar for 2004, per request of newsletter editor Steve Statkus. It was noted that there were three potential conflicts with our normal first Sunday of the month meeting. A motion was made by Barry Fear and seconded by Dave Raney that we consider changing the meeting day to the second Sunday of each month. After some discussion, it was agreed that the motion be tabled until the December board meeting. At that time the board would have greater opportunity for discussion and possible presentation to the general membership.

Bob Dombek announced the possibility of Wings Weekend and the Greater Cincinnati Radio Control Club being scheduled next year. Dates not yet determined.

Barry Fear recommended replacement of some of our chapter tables, which are showing signs of severe wear, with new composite

Brief additional discussion was held about the Christmas Party and gift exchange. Vice president Tom Linfert was authorized to make chapter reservation for Sunday, 1/4/04, at Famous Dave's Barbecue as soon as possible. It was agreed that children and other family members wishing to participate in the gift exchange should contribute their own individual gifts. Limit previously set is \$15.00.

Bob Dombek asked for recommendations for project tours for the December meeting. It was the consensus of the board that we should keep the tour this year to on-field projects. Recommended thus far: Howard Pleviak's Glastar, Ken Jones' White Lightning, Tom and Barry's RV-9, Hogan's Waco Restoration, Eric Nebergall's helicopter project, and Ron Gielegheims RV-8.

Bob Dombek brought the end of year chapter status report and insurance premium to the attention of the board. Needed for the report are all chapter members EAA renewal dates. The premium will not be known until status report package is received from EAA Headquarters, in mid November.

Dave Raney stated that he has a drill press and spark plug cleaner to donate to the chapter.

The board meeting was adjourned at 1:55 PM and was followed by the November Chapter meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

tables. He also recommended replacement of the hangar workbench which was reclaimed by its original owner. The board approved expenditure not to exceed \$200.00 for these items.

Bob Dombek, President (for Rolf Hettico, Secretary)

Chapter Meeting Minutes - Nov. 2, 2003

President Bob Dombek called the November meeting to order at 2:10 P.M. on a beautiful, warm fall Sunday. A sign up sheet was passed around with the instruction to fill in each member's EAA expiration date on the "attended" column. Also available to members was a project roster and an updated members roster.

Minutes of the Meeting:

Announcements and Information:

- Bob reported that the chili cook off was a success with many members in attendance and several brands of chili. The movie was "The Blue Max".
- Bob reported that this is Election Day and that the program to follow the meeting is to be presented by Dave Raney and will be a nuts and guts look at the Continental "A" series engines.
- The December meeting will be the traditional project tour but will be done at the airport, touring projects on the field.
- Name tags are ordered but not in yet. They will be available at the Dec. meeting. Cost is \$6.25 each.
- The Christmas party at Famous Dave's is in the works and will feature a speaker who was a navigator on a B-17 in W.W.II.
- New member Kevin Gassert was welcomed. Kevin owns an Ercoupe and recently sold his Navion, which has based at HAO for several years.
- The minutes were approved. The president recognized Rolf for his exemplary job as Secretary.
- Treasurer's report was that rent is paid up through the end of the year, bills are paid and there is a balance of \$2392 in the checking account. He reported that a successful Wings weekend plus a successful Air Circus event put extra cash in the account for this year.
- It was reported by Tom Burdin that the Air Circus would become a yearly event at HAO.
- The Vice President, Tom Linfert, recognized Steve Statkus for his thoughtful and fitting eulogy for Roger Olsen who passed away in July. Tom suggested that a picture of Roger be acquired, framed, and hung in the chapter hangar as a memorial to this charter member.

Chapter Elections:

President Bob opened the elections portion of the meeting. The nominees were: for Vice President-Ron Forsythe and Ron Gielegem. For Treasurer: Mark Taylor and George Theobald. Motion was made and passed to close the floor to nominations. Voting ensued.

Results were as follows: for Vice-President - Ron Forsythe edged out Ron Gielegem for the post. For Treasurer - there was a tie between Mark Taylor and George Theobald. After much discussion of a solution to this, George decided that since he had been Treasurer for two consecutive terms (four years) he would drop out of the race. Therefore, Mark Taylor is the new Treasurer for a two year term.

New Business:

George took a moment to remind members of the importance of communicating with a tech counselor and a flight advisor during their aircraft construction and before the first flight. This safety issue is not to belittle anyone's ability or experience but rather to get more heads in on the project and to plan a safe venue. Cited was the recent incident at Lunken Field involving a first flight attempt that ended, fortunately, with relatively minor scrapes and bumps but a demolished airplane.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 P.M.

Minutes recorded by Mark Taylor and respectfully submitted to the membership for approval.

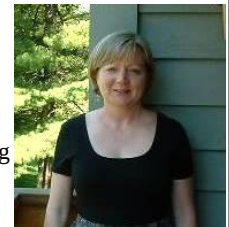
Rolf Hettico
Secretary, EAA Chapter 974

DEDICATION



What is dedication when it comes to building your own aircraft? It means different things to different people. To Thom and Dawna Boehmer it means getting serious - and serious means serious enough to move out of the master bedroom and convert it to your workshop. By converting the master bedroom, Dawna and Thom can work in heated comfort throughout the winter, and the large sliding glass doors let them move large components in and out of the work area. Serious means having parts stored in the closet, behind the couch, next to the treadmill, and anywhere else when necessary. Serious means attention to detail. Serious means selecting a great plane like the XL

Thom (What do you mean I'm biased?).
Dawna



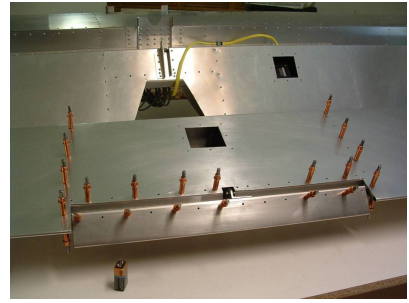
(Click pics for larger view)



Serious means having a fireplace in the back of the workshop



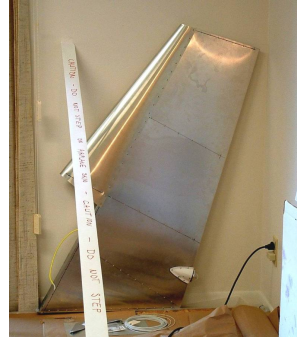
Out with the ottoman - in with the plane parts



Adding elevator trim



Clothes closets are good for storing parts too



Finished Rudder occupies corner of the room

With a little luck, and if building continues at a steady pace, first flight of the Boehmer's XL may be in late 2004/early 2005.

See you at the next meeting
George Deeb
Contributing Editor

**Possible Chapter Fly-out to Cafe' Mozart to celebrate
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birthday**

If you missed the notice, check it out by clicking on this link
http://www.geocities.com/ea974/Pastry_Fly-Out.html

We will go in January, on the first weekend with nice weather. Here's your chance to both satisfy your desire for pastries and baked goods and get an education in classical music (Ha!).

END

