

THE NEW PROPWASH

Volume 3, Issue 5
May, 2007

UPCOMING EVENTS

Chapter Meeting

Thursday, May 24th

7:30 PM

Sugar Grove Firehouse

Business meeting followed
by:

Program:

A presentation by Nort Richards on his trip to Mexico and Central America last summer in his Cessna 206. Nort visited every country in Central America except Belize.



Young Eagle Rallies

Ready to Take Off for the
2007 Season!

Sunday—May 20th

1st Rally of the Year!

We need lots of volunteers—
pilots, ramp and ground
crew too. Come help out
and join the fun.

Pilots's briefing at 8:30 AM

Young Eagle Flights from
9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Lunch provided for volun-
teers.

Our Chapter President has
set a goal of 600 Young Ea-
gles this year. Can you help
us accomplish this goal?

Cookout Following Young Eagles Rally on May 20th

Dick Low's hangar, #35.

The Chapter will provide
burgers and brats.

Bring a dish to share.

A great way to start off the
flying season!



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Quote of the Month:

*To most people, the
sky is the limit!*

*To those who love
aviation, the sky is
home!*

Anonymous

Chapter Leaders

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NEWS FROM THE PREZ, DICK LOW

Last month's Chapter meeting was attended by 25 people, the largest gathering that we have had for a Chapter meeting in over a year. This was very encouraging since the program was a review of the procedures, both ground and flight, used at our Young Eagle rallies. I want to thank Bob Retel for covering the ramp procedures, and Tom Shannon and Pam Brophy from the Aurora tower for a review of the airport and flight procedures. Lesa and I are hoping that this will lead to another successful year of Young Eagle rallies. So far we have been contacted by a number of individuals, but no large groups, regarding our first rally on May 20th. However, I have provided information to several newspapers and one TV channel so we should get some good publicity. I am also hopeful that a few more of our members will turn out to help out with the registration process and on the ramp as we were a little short of people at several of last year's rallies. Hopefully, I will be able to report at this month's Chapter meeting that we had a very successful first rally of the year. I have set a goal for the Chapter to fly 600 Young Eagles this year, a modest increase from the 577 that we flew last year.

This month's Chapter meeting at the Sugar Grove Firehouse will be on the 24th. The program following the meeting will be a presentation by Nort Richards on his trip to Mexico and Central America last summer in his Cessna 206. Nort told me that he visited every country in Central America except Belize. It promises to be a very interesting presentation so I hope you will consider attending.

In the administrative arena, I have received the certificates of insurance for all of our Young Eagle rallies from the EAA risk management office. As I stated in last month's newsletter, I requested and received coverage for both a Young Eagle rally and an informal Flying Start program on each of our scheduled Young Eagles dates. I am willing to provide the Flying Start orientation flights for adults but would need a volunteer on the ground to explain what is involved in obtaining a pilot certificate. Alan Shackleton reported at last month's Chapter meeting that all of the paper work had been submitted to send Del McCoy and Pricilla Kinney's daughter to the EAA Academy for a week this summer. He also explained that, due to the requirement to spend 5% of the Chapter's endowment fund each year to send kids to the Academy, EAA headquarter would be instructed to select a second child for Chapter sponsorship who could not otherwise afford to attend the camp.

Under the heading of other events, I still have not received any notification to date regarding the Ford Tri-motor. However, the IAC competition is coming up at Aurora on June 8th, 9th and 10th for those of you that like to watch airplanes fly other than straight and level. Also, I announced at last month's meeting that the local IAC Chapter had asked 579 if we were interested in providing hamburgers and hotdogs for lunch during the competition. However, since then, Todd Ashcraft has informed me that the IAC has decided to have a local sub shop provide sandwiches. Your Chapter officers would also have to resolve possible issues with getting a health permit from the Kane County health department before we could provide food sales.

Finally, in response to my past requests for volunteers for a Chapter speaker's bureau, Randy Cochran contacted me and said that he and his wife Susan would be willing to make presentations but that they would have to be on weekends as he is out of town during the week. Unfortunately, most of the requests that we have received to date have been for presentations during the week. However, Randy also volunteered to put together a video that our volunteers could use to present the Young Eagles message along with how an airplane flies and an introduction to the Chapter and the EAA. I viewed Randy's initial effort last weekend and it is spectacular.. As of right now we only have one outstanding request for a presentation from the Plano Library on the 15th of June. Bill Schertz and my wife Lesa have volunteered to make this presentation. However, I would still like to have the names of some additional volunteers whom I could call on as opportunities present themselves.

See you at the Firehouse on the 24th.

Dick Low
President
EAA Chapter 579



Trip to Baraboo for the \$100 Hamburger — By Elaine & Fred Foss

On a crisp winter sunny day Fred and I decided to take a flight for lunch. We chose to fly to Baraboo WI, which is about an hour flight from Naper Aero. Baraboo is not far from Madison. The Baraboo airport is right next door to the Ho Chunk casino. Convenient for the gambling types. The guys running the FBO were very accommodating and very informative about what all the area offered for a vacation getaway. While the casino is in walking distance the Ho Chunk offer a free shuttle ride to and from the airport. After calling they came in about 5 min. The casino has a hotel and about 3 restaurants. They also have a snack shop in the casino. We chose the buffet and found it very good. They offer a discount into the buffet if you have a player's card, something we did not have. The casino offers lots of machines to feed (even penny poker slots) and some tables for poker and craps.

The area is beautiful to see as most things are from the air. However we did notice some rather tall antennas on the west side of Madison, (something to watch out for).

To the right: a picture of the city of Madison that we shot on our way back home.



A Note from Your Editors: (Marcia & Bill)

If you are not receiving this newsletter via e-mail, why not?

Did you know :

1. You save the Chapter money for postage and printing if you receive an e-mail copy.
2. If you choose the e-mail version the photos are in color and much clearer .
3. The e-mail version also arrives in your "mailbox" as soon as we finish typing it and push the send button. Talk about getting your news hot off the press.
4. By receiving an e-mail copy, you save Bill from folding, addressing and stamping the "snail mail" copies.

Our secretary, Bill Schertz, reports that Chapter 579 has 55 paid members for 2007. Only 38% of our members receive their newsletter via e-mail. We understand that not everyone is equipped to receive e-mail, but maybe some of you 68% still getting snail mail, might want to give the electronic version a try. If you do, contact Bill Schertz (at 630-879-5465 or wschertz@comcast.net) and he will get you set up to receive the newsletter via e-mail. Thanks!

Wally Schirra, Jr., pioneering NASA astronaut and former EAA member, passed away earlier this month at the age of 84. Schirra was the only astronaut to fly in each of NASA's first three manned space missions—Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo. He participated in two very special EAA Oshkosh conventions; 1987 and 1994. Schirra, Gordon Cooper, and Deke Slayton, appeared in 1987 as EAA honored the original Mercury astronauts. Seven years later, Schirra was one of 15 Apollo astronauts to appear at the memorable "EAA's Salute to Apollo" honoring the 25th anniversary of the first lunar landing.

Schirra recalled his early interest in aviation in a 1994 interview. "Way back, my mother and dad were barnstormers and dad flew in World War I, so aviation was part of my breeding. "

Request for Articles and Photos for future issues of The New Propwash.

With this great spring weather and upcoming fair skies of summer, we know many of you will be having some great flying adventures. Why not share your aviation related experiences with your fellow Chapter members? Please write up an article and/or send us your pictures of what you are up to. Send to Marcia & Bill at mec515@sbcglobal.net. We prefer the text as an attachment in word format. **Deadline for the next issue is June 15th.**

New FAA Program to Speed Up Medicals—Called MedXPress

By Ruth Martens

For some time now pilots and student pilots have been able to fill out their portion of the application for a medical certificate (Form 8500-8) using TurboMedical, an interactive medical application on the AOPA website (www.aopa.org). A completed form could then be saved and printed out and then taken to their Aviation Medical Examiner. After signing the form in the presence of the AME this could be submitted without filling out the form again. TurboMedical has been helpful for pilots who want to know ahead of time what information they might need to bring in to their AME or if there is a problem they might not have been aware of. Many medical conditions are no longer disqualifying if you get the right paperwork together. Getting certified is a much quicker process if the paperwork is done and organized in advance of your pilot medical exam.

The FAA has now taken this idea one step further. In a program known as MedXPress, the airman will be able to fill out their part of the application for medical certificate (Form 8500-8) online at <https://medxpress.faa.gov>. The only requirement is a valid email address and the creation of a MedXPress account. After submitting the application online, the user will receive a confirmation number which must be given to their AME. They should also print a hard copy of the application and bring that as well.

Once at the AME's office, the information that had been entered by the pilot can be pulled up and viewed by the AME. Changes can be made if necessary. When submitting the exam to the FAA, this information can be imported and does not need to be reentered. This is a time saving step for the AME. Anything that saves time for your AME will shorten time to certification for the pilot.

MedXPress was released in April 2007 for users in the Northwest Mountain, Western Pacific and Alaska Regions. It will be available to all regions and applicants at a future date. It is not yet available in IL.

If you do not have internet access or don't like to be the first on the block to try something new the hardcopy version of the application form can be filled out as usual. As you all know the FAA is here to help you. It is true that when the government introduces a paperwork reduction initiative it usually means more forms and more work, this program does have the benefit of speeding up the airman's certification process in the long run. There will be bugs and growing pains but I believe the program has value and will benefit both pilots and AME's.

Ruth Martens, MD is a Senior AME with an office in Wheaton, IL. For appointments call (630) 668-5595.

Countdown to EAA AirVenture

Oshkosh, July 23-29, 2007

Less than three months remain until the start of the 55th annual EAA AirVenture fly-in convention, coming July 23-29 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.

EAA AirVenture annual draws participants from more than 60 nations and in excess of 10,000 airplanes, including more than 2,500 showplanes.

The event includes more than 800 exhibitors and 500 forums, workshops, and seminars. There are daily afternoon air shows. It is a great gathering of aviation enthusiasts from around the globe.

Some of the highlights for AirVenture 2007 include:

- U.S. Air Force's F-22 "Raptors"
- U-2 "spyplane"
- The Beach Boys are back
- Warbird shows with airplanes, pyrotechnics, and fly-bys.
- Commemoration of the Air Force's 60th anniversary.
- More than 2,500 showplanes."
- The newest innovations in aviation.

Chapter EAA 579 has many members who annually make the trek to Oshkosh for AirVenture.

Are you going this year?

For complete details of EAA AirVenture 2007 check out the website at:

www.airventure.org





Beat Billy

Questions for April:
 Who is the first and only, to my knowledge, person to ever, legally, Air Mail himself from Point A to Point B?

Answer for April:
 Upon finding the Air Mail plane full and not accepting passengers, Humorist Will Rogers, bought enough Air Mail postage to cover his weight and he mailed himself to his destination!

Question for May:
 All of you Piper fans know that a Tri Pacer is a PA-22. When is a PA-22 not a Piper aircraft?
 Till next month, fly safe, fly often, and remember to check your fuel!
Billy

Member News

Did you know that EAA 579 member, **Bill Schertz**, is a craftsman with fiberglass? He has built many fiberglass parts for his KIS Cruiser and has repaired fiberglass parts on production airplanes. This month, Bill, who also is a member of Chapter 153 in Schaumburg, presented a program for them showing fiberglass epoxy techniques including a demonstration with glass cloth and real epoxy resin.

Congratulations to **Fiona Kenney-McCoy**, daughter of Del McCoy and Priscilla Kenney, who will be attending the EAA Academy this summer.

The McCoy Family is currently on a family vacation to Ireland.

Owners & operators of aircraft manufactures by Beech Aircraft Corporation and its descendants, including the recently created Hawker Beechcraft Corporation have two major milestones to celebrate this summer at EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, July 23-29.

Special activities, flights, and exhibits will mark the 75th anniversary of Beechcraft and the 60th anniversary of Beechcraft Bonanza.



Fox Valley Sport Aviation Association—EAA Chapter 579

Membership Application or Renewal

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ EAA # _____

_____ New _____ Renewal Spouse's Name _____

Annual Membership \$20.00 -

Checks made payable to: EAA Chapter 579

Mail application & check to our treasurer:

Larry Shaw
147 N. Buckingham Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

**FOX VALLEY SPORT AVIATION ASSOCIATION
EAA CHAPTER 579**

The New Propwash
PO Box 559
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Scott Hansen flying his father, Dick's, P40 warbird prior to its sale.

Photo by Bill Cameron.