

THE NEW PROPWASH



Volume 4, Issue 6
June, 2008

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Quote of the Month

You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal.

Anonymous

Chapter Meeting

Thursday, June 26, 2008

Sugar Grove Firehouse

7:30 PM

Chapter Business Meeting

Followed By:

Development of an E-Racer
By: Jack Morrison

Jack Morrison will talk about the development of his E-Racer. Following his presentation there will be an opportunity for those who attend the meeting to examine Jack's airplane up close and personal.

Young Eagles Rally

Sunday

June 29th

Pilot Briefing—8:30 AM

Flying Kids from

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Pilots Needed

Ground Support Needed:

Flight Line

Registration Table

Come out & Volunteer

Join the Fun!

2008 AirVenture

Oshkosh

July 28—August 3

Check the website at
www.airventure.org

for all the latest information, schedule, activities, events, seminars, vendors, etc.

See you there!

Chapter Leaders

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NEWS FROM THE PREZ, DICK LOW

Last month's meeting was well attended with over 20 people in attendance, including several that I hadn't seen in awhile. Apparently, the added attraction of the barbeque pork chop dinner served by the Sugar Grove fire department was enough to entice people to come out. Following the normal business meeting those in attendance were treated to a slide show presentation on the National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center at Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C. by Bill Schertz. My thanks to Bill for an interesting presentation.

The program following this month's meeting will be a presentation by Jack Morrison on the development of his E-Racer. Following the presentation, there will be an opportunity for those who attend the meeting to examine Jack's airplane up close and personal. Since the theme of this month's program is building, I also wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge other Chapter members who are in the various stages of completing their projects. First and foremost, I have heard that Andy Capigatti has had his Sonex signed off and is ready to start flying off his test program. I believe this is the first project completion by a Chapter member since I have become president.

Other members who have projects in various stages of completion are Bill Schertz (KIS Cruiser), Todd Ashcraft (his own design), Ed Godfrey (RV-10), Roger Cole (Murphy Elite), Jerry Borkowicz (RV-7A), Mark Quigley (Brokaw Bullet), James Berard (RV), Dave Spano (Velocity), Joe Neal (RV-7A) and Andy Nord (Acro Duster II). As the owner of two Wichita "spam cans", my hat is off to the perseverance and dedication of these builders. Finally, I would like to remind all of the builders in the Chapter that two of our members, Todd Ashcraft and Alan Shackleton, are EAA designated tech. counselors. As such they are available to provide advice on the construction of your project. However, they must be asked to provide this consultation.

Our first Young Eagles rally of 2008 was a qualified success. We had decent flying weather but only flew 49 Young Eagles. By past standards this was a slow day for us but about right for the number of pilots, as we only had six who participated. However we had plenty of ground support at the registration desk and on the flight line so it was a relaxing day for all involved. Our second rally of the year is coming up on the last Sunday of the month, June 29th. I am hoping for a little better turn out of Young Eagles this month and cooperation from

the weatherman again. I would also like to encourage Chapter members to consider coming out and supporting the Chapter's Young Eagles program by volunteering as part of the ground crew, if not flying Young Eagles. Also, as a reminder to Young Eagles pilots, Mike Luman at Lumanair has arranged with BP to discount the price of fuel used to fly Young Eagles by \$1:00 per gallon. In order to qualify for the discounted price, the fuel must be purchased with a BP credit card and the card number must be provided either to me or Mike Luman in advance of the Young Eagles Rally date.

I can't promise any meal arrangements this month but I hope to see you at the Firehouse on the 26th.

Dick Low



President
EAA Chapter 579

The Desert Rat By Art Sereque

On a Saturday in April over 30 members and friends of Warbird Sq. 4 arrived at the Marengo, Illinois barn of Mike & Cheryl Kellner to work on the Kellner Restoration Project – a World War II B-17 E. The Desert Rat was so named because it was used as a training plane in North Africa, later to be converted to a hospital ship in the Asian Theater of operations.

Mike found The Desert Rat in an auto salvage yard in Maine, literally hacked apart with an axe. Volunteers have been working with Mike for 12 years, with another 40 years expected before completion of the project.

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Although there is no glory in doing “grunt” work on the restoration project, it is a labor of love. An 85 year old volunteer drove from Chenoa, IL to work on the project.

Mike and Cheryl would certainly welcome any contributions from Chapter 579 members. A visit and/or workday on the project could certainly be arranged.



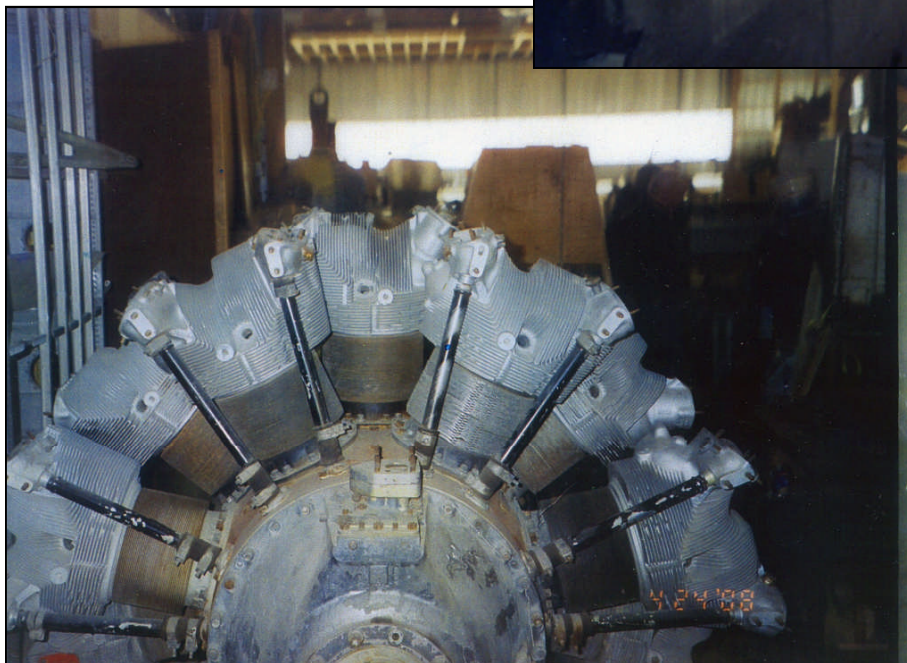
Damage Done With an Axe





More Photos of
"The Desert Rat"
By Art Sereque

Volunteers working on
Horizontal Stabilizer



R-1820 1200 H.P.
Radial Engine



BEAT BILLY

May's Question:

In the 1986 blockbuster, Top Gun, "Maverick, Tom Cruise, rolls his Tomcat inverted and gives a MIG pilot "the bird."

Where did this scene come from? Was it based on fact or the imaginative mind of a writer?

Answer for May:

On 17 December, 1944 Ft. Lieutenant Charles "FOOB Fairbanks of Ithaca, NY was flying his Hawker Tempest on a fighter sweep to Rheine, Germany. Here is an extract from his combat report from that sorti. Foob has just destroyed 1 BF 109 and spotted two others.

From the December 1944 combat report of Flight Lieutenant F/L David Charles "Foob" Fairbanks, Royal Cana-

dian Air Force:

"I climbed again and with my section set course for Nijmegen. We passed near Emmerich and were just crossing the Rhine River when two Bf 109s passed my starboard side slightly below at 4000 -ft and flying in the opposite direction. One was being chased by another Tempest and I broke into the second one. The enemy aircraft continued straight and level just at the base of the cloud. I quickly closed the range from below to approximately 150-yds. I fired, but only my port cannons worked. After a few bursts I saw strikes on the enemy's starboard wing. He did only a very slight turn to starboard and continued on. I rolled onto him again and fired until my ammo ran out. I overhauled the enemy aircraft and came right up under his wing—the pilot was looking out the opposite side and did

not seem to have a clue! After several seconds, he finally became aware of my presence! I rolled inverted over top of him, held my aircraft steady, gave him the finger and came home!"

"Foob" Fairbanks was the only American to be awarded the British Distinguished Flying Cross, with 2 bars (3 awards). He was the highest scoring Tempest Ace, 13.,5, and the types most decorated pilot.

June's Question:

For this month Billy will make it an easy one.

I am the only man to earn all seven aviation wings that the U.S. military awards.

Who am I?

What are the seven types of wings?

Till next month, stay safe! ***Billy***

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
Sugar Grove, IL 60554

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B-17 at Oshkosh Photo By Bill Cameron