

# *Spirit of Flight*

Experimental Aircraft Association  
Chapter 14, San Diego CA

April 2004



The Northrup Flying Wing is one of the aircraft on display at Chino Planes of Fame

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 The Flying Report
- 4 Upcoming Programs
- 4 Bus Trip to Chino
- 5 Calendar of Events
- 5 Unclassified Ads



### **Coming events:**

**Bus trip to Chino Planes of Fame –  
Sunday May 16**

## The Flying Report

By Bob Osborn

**March 6** - Are we going to get March in reverse? It came in like a lamb. Warm sun, light winds, stable air and yet the usual fly in crowd was sparse. Could it have been the word got out on who was cook? Would it have made a difference? Over 40 brave souls downed the sloppy Joes served up by Bob and Dennis. Pete Grootendorst abstained. His excuse he "would rather fly than eat", which he proceeded to do all day long. The Cessna 140 club solved the hard starting problem with their airplane by cleaning the spark plugs only to find the radio transmitter was acting up. The Siesta Patrol pressed on with Foreman Joe Russo cracking the whip in the absence of Chief Engineer Gene Hubbard. The Produce King Jim Chapman flew in from Borrego in his Kitfox with a load of lemons for distribution. Thanks Jim.

It has been observed that several Chapter members have grown a bit "long in tooth". That is aged somewhat and showing it. So it was reassuring to find 14 year old Preston Bolan working on his Quicksilver, ensconced in the trailer parked between hanger #1 and the control tower. Preston is the little guy who flew copilot with his dad Steve Bolan in their Breezy, which they tied down on the south line a few years back. Preston's airplane and trailer were stored at Barona when the fires burned through that area. It was 1 of 3 to escape destruction out of 46 that were there. It's great to have you back with us Preston, welcome. Preston was getting the Quicksilver ready for the Ocotillo Wells campout March 26 to March 28, along with several other "toys" (ATV's, dirt bikes, etc). It should be a blast, see you there.

**March 13** - We may have skipped March altogether with June Gloom settling in early. Second Saturday, Young Eagles day for EAA Chapter 14 and fog and low clouds had

persisted on the coast all week. Yet by 10:00 O'clock with 4 miles visibility and 1800 feet of ceiling it was safe to fly. Dayton briefed the prospective YE's and parents and lined up their pilots and aircraft. Dick March (Stinson), Armand Brattland (Maule), Bob Osborn (Cherokee) then lofted 8 Young Eagles and a couple of adults into a busy sky. Busy, because of a mix of jets (737, Citation, Hawkers), twins and regular fly in traffic, with the tower keeping everyone separated in the "soupy" sky. We all returned in time to enjoy Joe Russo and Larry Rothrock's lunch of Italian sausage with peppers and onions, salad, rolls, and ice cream. Some 45 diners brightened the day including the Siesta Patrol members who fueled up for an afternoon of Nieupoort building.

Also of note this week, Gene Whigham has ordered a Sonex kit, to be delivered in about 4 weeks (Chris, see what you started). Gene also donated several "flying" books to the library. The Chapter computer, which includes some recent improvements (donations??) has been tweaked by Kerry Powell who also brought forth the Aeronca Chief in hanger 2 after a long hiatus, for a much needed scrubbing and run up. A busy day for all....

[Editor's note: last month, a member whose name I failed to record donated a computer to the chapter. His employer was upgrading office computers, and made the old ones—in this case a 400mhz Pentium II—available for charitable donations. The donated system tower, with a fresh, clean load of Windows 2000 and Microsoft Office 2000, showed up not a moment too soon. Second Saturday in February, I came down to the hangar to install a new version of Young Eagle certificate, and found the chapter computer unable to boot. Since then I have installed the donated computer in place of the old one, transferring the modem from the old computer and configuring the new one to auto dial our Internet service provider. I've also installed the new Young Eagle program and configured to properly print Young Eagle

certificates. The chapter computer is located in the office trailer behind hangar 1, and is available to chapter members for flight planning, Internet research, and of course, printing Young Eagle certificates.]

**March 20** - Busy day at Brown Field with EAA Chapter 14 starting with the pancake breakfast hosted by Ty Tyvoll, Bill Clark, and John Watts. Fly in traffic was normal with a couple of O1D (L-19) warbirds, a few Piper and Cessna classics for display in accordance with County tax assessor dictates, and our "in house" aircraft adding to the din. The monthly Chapter meeting was delayed, waiting for the featured speaker and hopefully his jet aircraft for show and tell. We had to make do with kicking the tires on Pres. Richards new Mini Cooper parked front and center for all to admire.

Meanwhile John Alley, Ernie Block, and Mitch Mitchem readied "Big Blue" the trailer used to transport the hanger, cook equipment, tables and chairs out to Ocotillo Wells for next weekends fly out/camp out.

Fueling for the trailer loading crew was provided by Chris Puntis who served the most delicious Shepherd's Pie ever concocted assisted by Larry Rothrock. Chris had just concluded a highly satisfying and successful week during which the FAA bestowed their blessing on his Sonex, designating it safe to fly. Next the first flight.

**March 27** - "Ocotillo Wells", just the sound of it strikes terror in the heart of the veteran such as Paul Hansen and his faithful friend "Ginger" who came for the 19th year in a row to test the survival skills honed over that time. What is the lure? What witches brew entices completely normal people like John Ally to put in 16 hour days, summoning the faithful, compiling lists, plans, stockpiling food and supplies and loading it all on a trailer for Mitch Mitchell to tow to the desert for a weekend of thrills, terror, agony, and the ecstasy of the

4th Annual EAA Chapter 14 Roger Trickett Memorial Outing?

Whatever it is, it happened. All types of aircraft flew in from Ron Schular's twin Comanche to Ryan's VW powered Quickie. Can you imagine crossing the Laguna's at 6500' in a Quickie? At any time there were a dozen aircraft parked outside the EAA hangers with more coming and going. Dennis Cullum flew in from Madrid, Spain with a short stopover at Brown to pick up his RV-3. Paul and Matthew Horn flew in from Otisfield, ME with a short stop at Brown to pick up 19Fox. Jim Chapman flew the Kitfox down from Borrego with a load of grapefruit. Tom West flew in from Hemet Friday afternoon with the wind blowing like gangbusters (normal for Ocotillo) and skidded sideways across the lake to a tie down near the camp site.

So what kind of a day was it Saturday? PERFECT! Unbelievable! It was perfect, clear skies, light wind, warm sun (about 80 degrees the high). Totally out of character for Ocotillo. The dirt bikes, 4 wheelers, and Preston Bolan in his Quicksilver ultra lite were terrorizing the edges of the dry lake bed. We missed Ernie Block who went into the hospital for a heart operation but John Ally and Joe Russo had the grill hot and stoked up the inner man (and woman) with a delicious lunch of hamburgers, Polish sausage, Cole slaw, potato salad, potato chips, and fixins. Larry Rothrock, Gene Hubbard, and Lista Duren were building and supervising construction of homebuilt kites. Chris Puntis, others were attempting to do some kite flying but the wind wouldn't cooperate.

Pres Richard was there with his Mini Cooper and will hopefully write an official account of the complete "Outing", but for now.....

Keep 'em flyin' BobO

## PROGRAM...

### April...

The program at the **April General Meeting** (April 17) will be an entertaining presentation by Chapter Member, Guru and founder of San Diego Flight Museum at Brown Field (visit it!), Airline Pilot, Historian, etc., etc., (...you get the idea), Reg Finch. Don't miss it.

#### The PT-19 Story by Reg Finch

One of the finest flying aircraft I have ever had the privilege of flying—and I have flown some: everything from DeHavilland Chipmunks to 747's— is the Fairchild PT-19. These flying qualities, which make some aircraft seem ill mannered in comparison, did not come by accident. They were the result of many hours of design, development and testing by the Fairchild team. This team consisted of the Russian engineer, Alexander Kartveli, who had worked with Alexander P. DeSeversky, and of Frenchman, Armand Thiebolt.

DeSeversky is known for some of the US fighters that he designed in the 1930's. Kartveli later designed the P-47 "Jug", Thunderbolt, the F-84, and the F-105. You may have known these airplanes were designed by the same designer and you may be able to see a commonality of shape, at least in the fuselage.

His friend and fellow designer, Thiebolt, designed racers in France and later in the US. Then he worked for Fokker in New Jersey and designed the XFA-1 fighter for the US Navy in the early thirties. If you wish to hear the rest of the story of how these brilliant engineers developed the PT-19 come to the April meeting. In spite of overwhelming opposition we may also say a few words about the British Victorian Aerial Steam carriage of 1840, which may become the San Diego Flight Museum's next project. Rather smashing, don't you think? See you then.

I apologize (apologise?) for Reginald...he IS a Brit, you know. Quite smashing, what?

### May....

As usual, the **May** program and General Meeting will be on the 3rd Saturday of the month (May 15.) Pay attention: **May 15** about 10:00

Chapter Member and co-owner of the Express Aircraft Company, Roy Davis and co-owner Nancy Moon will bring their very hot Express airplane and give us a real presentation and show. This kit airplane cruises at 200 mph with four 200 pound passengers and 140 gallons of fuel. (Try THAT in a Neuport 11, ladies.) She's a beauty!! See the ad in the back of this newsletter. Also, take a look at their website [www.express-aircraft.com](http://www.express-aircraft.com) If that doesn't whet your appetite, you should take up model

trains and whittling. Roy and Nancy have juggled their schedule in order to do this for us and we are grateful. They're gracious folks to come all the way from Tumwater, Washington to speak to us. On the other hand, it's just a pleasant stroll for the Express. Ho-hum. Get the word out! --Larry

### June...

The June program (**June 19**) will really get your "gottahaveit" gene activated!! Trio Avionics, which is based at SEE, will make a presentation and demonstrate their AUTOPILOT for experimental aircraft. Both my hangar mates, Dan Patch and Bill Ingram have just installed this auto pilot and they just won't shut up about it. They have been conducting their own tests and find incredible accuracy and control with this tiny beast. They can fly formation with the thing. Wheeler North has one in his RV. This little device is being quickly accepted in experimentals and is a great deal...the price will certainly go up when it's certified for spam cans!

See their web site [www.trioavionics.com](http://www.trioavionics.com) Also, search the web for Sam Buchanan's RV Journal and read a rather compete evaluation of the autopilot.

Let's all attend these three programs, they'll be great!!...Larry Rothrock

## ANOTHER (non-singing) BUS TRIP:---

### to the CHINO AIRSHOW

Ok, we'll try it again. The Chapter is sponsoring a bus trip to Chino Airport for their great Airshow and the Planes of Fame Museum. Now, kids, this is a DEAL.

We'll leave in a luxurious, air conditioned bus from Montgomery Field on the morning of May 16 (that's a Sunday, folks) and return to the same place that evening. You can park at MYF.

I don't have to tell you about the terrific collection of flying treasures that the Planes of Fame has amassed. Many of them will be flying. The Air Show is going to be great. This is an easy, simple way to go to the Air Show—no parking problems, no traffic, no idiots on the freeway (they'll all be in the bus). And it's a good DEAL. The Chapter is sponsoring it and we get a DEAL. The whole thing-- transportation to Chino, lunch, air show admission and transportation back – is only about 25 bucks.

See the sign-up sheet in Hangar One for details or phone me at 619-507-4455. Did I mention that this is a DEAL? Grab your best friends or neighbors and bring them along. You may even bring relatives, if you're desperate. There are only about 45 places and it will fill up fast, so don't miss out. First come, first serve. There will be no singing on the bus!

----- Larry Rothrock

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### Unclassified Ads

Unclassified ads are free to Chapter 14 members - \$5 to non-members for 2 months. To submit an ad (or other newsletter input) send to Kerry Powell, Newsletter editor, either by email (preferred) at [kgpowell@aol.com](mailto:kgpowell@aol.com), or by phone at 760-602-0662

**New 4 cylinder ignition harness \$50.**

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**New Bendix S200 magneto \$500.** This model has no impulse coupling. Lloyd Gray 760-753-5197

**Glasair III kit** In primer, no engine or avionics \$59,000 1-619-549-9606

**Lancair 320** 250 hrs tt, IFR, 210 MPH, 7.5 GPH, \$79,000 . 1-619-549-9606

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 3 – Open house, coffee, lunch at Chapter 14 hangars, Brown Field.

April 10 – Young Eagles, 9AM, Open house, coffee, lunch at Chapter 14 hangars, Brown Field.

April 17 – Pancake breakfast 7:30, Chapter meeting – 10 AM, Open house, coffee, lunch at Chapter 14 hangars, Brown Field.

April 22 – Board Meeting – Montgomery Field administration building 7PM

April 24 – Open house, coffee, lunch at Chapter 14 hangars, Brown Field.

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**April 2004**

**CHAPTER WEBSITE**  
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**EAA Chapter 14 Memberships**  
 Membership cost is \$25.00 per year plus an initial \$5.00 induction fee for new members. Applications are available at our Brown Field hangars and on our website.

**Chapter Officers and Directors**

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
President	Richard G. Kalling	(858) 549-0785	<a href="mailto:rkalling@mail.sandi.net">rkalling@mail.sandi.net</a>
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Flight Advisor	Reuven Silberman	(619) 749-5561	<a href="mailto:pilots2@yahoo.com">pilots2@yahoo.com</a>
Brown Field Hangar No. (with recorder)		(619) 661-6520	

**On-Going Chapter Events**

Open House at the Brown Field Hangars every Saturday from 8:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. with lunch at 11:30.

Pancake breakfast - third Saturday of each month.  
 General Meeting - 10:00 A.M. third Saturday of each month.

**Tape Library**

Our tape library contains over 700 tapes of many interesting and informative subjects. These tapes may be checked out by members for a period of one week. If you can't return the video in person, please return it by mail.