

EAA Chapter 251 Newsletter October 2007



www.eaa251.org

President- Ken Henderson (575) 437-1571- kenhenderson@zianet.com

V. P. - Kelsey Scribner (575) 682-1207- scribnert932@wmconnect.com

Sec. - Richard Finch (575) 430-1258- finchbooks@tularosa.net

Tres. - Will Stigers (575) 682-3445- tigerdin@tularosa.net

Y.E. Cord. - John Wareing (575) 434-3682- JSHOCKERW@aol.com

Website- Jim Holder (575) 585-8031- holder@netmdc.com

Newsletter Editor- Ken Henderson- Same as above

Item 1- November Meeting- The next chapter meeting will be held on November 13th at 1800 hrs. in the pilots lounge located in the main terminal building at Alamogordo- White Sands Regional Airport. This month's program will be a report on the history of EAA Chapter 251 by Ken Henderson. Afterwards we will take a short walk to the chapter hangar for a tour and tire kicking. Come learn all you ever wanted to know about the whom, when, and where of Chapter 251 and take a look at the hangar improvements and a few great projects.

Item 2- December Meeting- December's meeting will be our annual Christmas Dinner at Memories Restaurant, 1223 New York Ave., Alamogordo, N.M. It will be on Dec. 11th from 6 P.M. til 8:30 P.M. We will order off the menu with the usual Dutch Treat arrangement. Usual cost is around \$20.00 per person. The dress will be New Mexico Formal. You don't have to look like you're going to a funeral but you shouldn't look like you're going to a roping and branding either! We will have our annual awards ceremony and a drawing for door prizes. The room size limits the seating to 34 so get your reservations in ASAP to avoid having to eat on the front porch in the cold! Please RSVP to Richard Finch, (575) 430-1258, or finchbooks@tularosa.net.

Item 3- Y.E. Day- Y.E. Coordinator John Wareing proposes we conduct our next Young Eagles Day on Dec. 8th from 0900 hrs. to 1200 hrs. with the next Saturday, Dec. 15th, as our back up date. We will discuss this further at the next meeting to see if the date will work for most and who will be available to help.

Item 4- 2007 Holloman Air & Space Expo- The recent expo at Holloman A.F.B. was an unqualified success by all reports. If you didn't go you really missed a great show. Even though EAA 251 didn't have a booth there Ken Henderson was able to place EAA brochures and information at the Alamogordo Museum of Space History and the Holloman Aero Club booths. Both reported much interest by the attendees in our material. We will definitely have a booth there next year so everyone start thinking now how we want to showcase our chapter to the public next year. Also, thanks to everyone who went out and supported Linda Madron at the Airport Grill on Friday the 26th for her breakfast and lunch buffet. The food was great and we hope she made some money along the way.

Item 5- 2008 Calendars- Will Stigers will soon be receiving the 2008 EAA World of Flight Calendars. Sales of these calendars provide a way for the chapter to make a little money as well as a great looking monthly reminder of what we all love. No, not great looking women, great looking airplanes! Everyone please buy one of these great calendars for your hangar, workshop, or wherever.

Item 6- EAA 251 Website- Our chapter website was recently updated by Webmaster Jim Holder and if you haven't given it a visit lately please do so. The most recent Y.E. pictures are there for viewing as well as a fantastic aviation related links page. And next time you see Jim be sure and tell him what a great job he did. It was pointed out to the attendees of the recent Chapter Leaders Workshop in Oshkosh what an important and valuable recruiting tool the chapter website can be as well as for furthering public relations. Thanks Jim!

Item 7- FAA Airworthiness Inspection- On Friday, Oct. 26th, EAA members Kelsey Scribner and Rock Hendrickson had their experimental home built aircraft inspected by the FAA to determine their airworthiness. Both aircraft passed inspection with just a very short list of insignificant items to correct. We should see them both in the air very soon flying off their 40 hours. Congratulations Kelsey and Rock for a job well done! You are an inspiration to all the rest of us building or wishing to. We will try to have photos of these aircraft in the next newsletter.

Item 8- Monthly Raffle- On his recent trip to Oshkosh, Ken Henderson used his generous 35% EAA donated discount to purchase EAA memorabilia to be raffled off each month at the meetings. One dollar buys you a chance to win a very nice EAA Logoed item and helps raise money for the chapter treasury. Everyone is invited to please participate in this fun monthly event. All proceeds go to the chapter treasury. Thanks!

Item 9- Alamo Daily News Interview- Reporter Michelle Scharmack recently interviewed members Richard Finch, Jim Holder, Kelsey Scribner, and Ken Henderson for a story on the EAA 251 Chapter Hangar. It should be appearing in the paper very soon along with pictures we hope. Another great public relations opportunity for the chapter!

Item 10- Business Cards- Kevin Dunshee sent Ken Henderson a format for printing chapter business cards. It looks great and is very easy to modify to place your own personal information on the cards and print them at home on your printer. Ken will be bringing some finished cards to the next meeting so we can all have a look and decide if this design will do the job for us.

Item 11- Chapter T-Shirts and Patches- Ken Henderson has been in touch with Promotional Designs of Green Bay, Wis. concerning chapter t-shirts and patches. This company produces the logoed items for EAA and was recommended by Brenda Anderson of the EAA national organization. He has not received a price on patches yet as he had to mail an old patch to them to get a price on an exact reproduction but should have the info by the next meeting. Concerning the shirts, there are several options open to us with the deciding factor being what we want to spend. An informal discussion with Kelsey Scribner and John Wareing produced another idea for selling the shirts at our Y.E. events as a fundraiser. Their idea was to have shirts in bright yellow or orange simulating what flight crews on runway or on deck might wear for safety purposes with the words "FLIGHT CREW" imprinted in black on the back at shoulder level and a small (6") outline of our logo on the front at breast level. Ken has not received a quote back on this idea but feels we could get these shirts made for around \$6 apiece and sell them for \$10 apiece. He will have all the facts and figures at the next meeting for discussion and a vote on how to proceed with this idea.

Item 12- Chapter Aircraft Building Project- Last month we voted to buy plans for the construction of a "Legal Eagle" ultra light aircraft as a chapter project. Several informal hangar discussions in the last month

between committee members Richard Finch, Jim Holder, Kelsey Scribner, and Ken Henderson brought some concerns about this decision to light. First, it will cost us at least half again as much to build a half VW engine as a full one. The latest "Kitplanes" magazine would seem to support this as the kit price for the "Legal Eagle", a single seat with a half VW is \$4500 yet the kit price for the "Double Eagle"; a 2 seat with a full VW is only \$3675. While we weren't planning to buy a kit, it is obvious that the 2 seater would require more materials so the almost \$1000 difference must be in the cost of converting the engine. Second, if we build a single seater, the kids involved in building the airplane would never be able to experience the thrill of flying in something that they helped build. Would you build something you would never be able to fly in? Third, even though some of the materials needed for construction might be donated there will be things that we would need to purchase. There has been no consideration to how we would fund this project. The chapter treasury cannot afford it. We need to form a fundraising committee for this project. In conclusion, the project committee needs to meet formally, which never happened, to iron out these problems and others before we invest chapter money in a project. Chapter members will be invited to voice their opinions on this subject at the next meeting.

Item 13- GA User Fees- Ken Henderson received a letter from Congressman Steve Pearce concerning the recent user fees battle. While the letter was a shameless plea for a monetary contribution he thought it interesting that Pearce is a GA pilot with over 30 years and 10,000 hrs. flying experience. Pearce has come out in opposition of the new user fees aimed at GA pilots. Not trying to be political here, just passing along the information for your personal knowledge.

Item 14- Minutes of Last Meeting, Oct. 9, 2007-

Meeting called to order at 6:08 P.M.- Members present- Jim Holder, Jim Fairhurst, Will Stigers, Bob Hurd, Maurice Morgan, Ken Henderson, Paul Smith, and Richard Finch. Guests- Trevor Perkins
Tips from Ken Henderson's Oshkosh Trip-

1. Make meetings more fun. We need to create a meeting that members can't wait to attend.
2. Monthly raffles of EAA merchandise to further the fun factor and raise funds. Jim Holder won the raffle this month and donated the prize to be resold at the next Y.E. Event.
3. How do we attract new members? We need new ideas and we need to pursue the ones already being used to our best advantage, i.e.- website, events, word of mouth, personal contacts, visitors, EAA National membership lists of members in our area. We need to be more outgoing to visitors- Wear your nametags, introduce yourselves, include visitors in pre-meeting discussions, make them feel wanted and needed.
4. Minutes of Sept. meeting approved.
5. Treasurers Report- \$165 taken in during September. Total assets are \$1492.00.
6. Tech Counselors Richard Finch and Jim Holder report inspecting Rock Hendrickson's and Kelsey Scribner's projects.
7. Old Business-
 - 1a. - December meeting will be our annual Christmas dinner at Memories Restaurant.
 - 2a. - Business cards- Ken Henderson waiting for formatted file from Kevin Dunshee to complete business card project.
 - 3a. - Information requested by Parker Bradley for obtaining monetary grants needed- Ken Henderson supplied info he had. Will Stigers supplied info he had. Paperwork handed over to Richard Finch for completion.
8. New Business-
 - 1a. - Linda Madron will have breakfast and lunch buffet on Friday, Oct.26, to compliment Holloman Expo.
 - 2a. - Motion made and passed to reimburse Ken Henderson \$104.32 for EAA merchandise bought at Oshkosh for fundraising raffles and door prizes.
 - 3a. - Motion made and passed to buy plans for Legal Eagle for \$50 as a chapter building project.
 - 4a. - Ken Henderson reports that a 25% discount is available from EAA for the purchase of merchandise to be used for fund raising.
 - 5a. - Young Eagle and EAA patches available for purchase from Will Stigers.
 - 6a. - Ken Henderson will contact EAA vendor for prices on chapter t-shirts and patches.

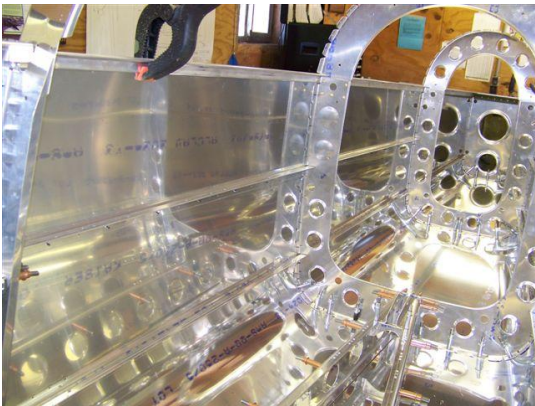
7a. - A.D.N. reporter Michelle Scharmack will visit chapter hangar Oct. 19 to interview members about same.

8a. – A bulletin board for posting EAA info is needed for the chapter hangar.

9. Monthly Program- Ken Henderson presented a short program about what he learned at the Chapter Leaders Workshop he attended recently in Oshkosh. There were 30 chapters represented with membership and assets ranging from 300 members with \$500,000 in assets to 17 members with \$600 in assets. Despite their outward appearance of success all chapter leaders professed to be having problems with attracting new members and retaining old ones, providing interesting and relevant monthly programs, and raising funds. Attendees were broken down into groups of 6 for short breakout sessions then back together for discussion on findings and ideas. Too many ideas were presented to cover here but Ken is working up an outline of their findings to be presented to members at a later date. He also presented many flyers and printed material from other chapters as ideas on what we could do to further the chapter's mission. Secretary Richard Finch was especially impressed with the chapter membership application from EAA Chapter 113 of Canton, Michigan. Perhaps we could work up something similar for our chapter? The need for business cards and a good website was addressed. We need to think about forming a membership committee. The recruitment kit for student members was well received. It would be great if all members would invest \$20 to purchase one and present it to the young person of their choice to further the EAA mission. The need for more fundraising was addressed also.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Item 15- John Wareing's RV-8 Project- As promised last month, here are a few pictures of John's latest accomplishments on his RV-8.



As they say in the cartoons, **“That’s All Folks!”**