

CORBEN COURIER

Chapter Meeting May 15 at Sugar Ridge Airport



Our next Chapter 93 membership meeting is scheduled for May 15th. **Please be advised that this meeting will be held at Sugar Ridge Airport.** Tom Kretschmann has graciously offered to host our meeting and provide us with updates on his many interesting projects. Please plan to arrive around 6:30 pm. Feel free to fly into Sugar Ridge for the meeting as we would enjoy seeing your aircraft on the field. Our meeting will begin at 7:00pm. Munchies and drinks will be provided by Tom. I look forward to seeing everyone there!

For directions to Sugar Ridge Airport, proceed southwest on Hwy. 151 and exit at Route 69. Turn left on Rt. 69 and then make a quick right turn on Valley Rd. Stay on Valley Rd. to the T junction. Turn left on Sugar River Rd. and look for the entrance to Sugar Ridge Airport on your right in approximately 1/2 mile.

- Rob Tweed

Homebuilder Heroes

Imagine these specifications for a moment... forward swept wings, twin engines in tandem configuration mounted mid-ship, recessed radiator inlets hidden in vertical tail surfaces and contra-rotating propellers. From these specs you might assume I was referring to a radical new design that will be appearing at AirVenture this summer. Incredibly, this aircraft's design dates back to 1937! The amazing plane I am referring to is the Bugatti 100P, designed by the legendary auto manufacturer Ettore Bugatti and his chief designer Louis De Monge. This brilliant design has numerous patents assigned to it but, sadly, it never flew. As Hitler's army invaded and occupied France during World War II the prototype was hidden away throughout the remainder of the war so it would not fall into enemy hands. Miraculously the original aircraft survived the war and has changed hands several times over the last few decades. The original 100P has been restored and now proudly sits in the EAA AirVenture Museum. For those of you who have been fortunate enough to see this rare airplane I am sure a sense of awe fell upon you

as you admired its beautiful lines. I still cannot believe something this radical was designed in 1937.

News flash... Final touches are now being made on a full scale flying replica of the Bugatti 100P! For this we can thank Scotty Wilson, John Lawson and Simon Birney and their team at Le Reve Blue. This aircraft will fly with highly modified Suzuki engines mated to a custom designed gearbox based on photos of the original aircraft's design.



As many of you can attest, building any flying aircraft, even from a kit, is a significant undertaking. Building a plans-built aircraft is considerably more daunting. Creating a full-scale flying replica from scratch of a tremendously complex design such as the 100P or Jim Wright's Hughes H-1 Racer is monumental. Countless hours were invested in the museums just to measure

the original examples. And then to fabricate every component from scratch is just hard to imagine. We EAAers are so fortunate to have such enterprising people create these magnificent airplanes for us to enjoy. Bring on the goose bumps...

- Rob Tweed

Spring Cleaning at Blackhawk

Spring cleanup days are **Saturday, May 10 and Sunday, May 11 starting 8 a.m. each day.** Contact Chuck Knuteson at charlesknuteson@gmail.com or contact Don Ripp and he will relay information to Chuck.

Chuck will have two Bobcats, one with a "Brush Hog" attachment and another with a "grappling hook" so the real "grunt" work will done with the help of Bobcats. Chain saws and any other "brush destroying" equipment are welcome....and of course bring your own PPE (personal protective equipment).

This is a good opportunity for a "mass-attack" on the brush and over growth around the runway borders and edges at Blackhawk. With effort this should help make runway 04/22 more user friendly/safe for aircraft operations.

Check your calendars and plan on attending.

- Don Ripp

Morey Airport Hanger Dance May 17

Just a reminder that you're invited to an Aviation Dance and Get Together on Saturday, May 17 at 6:30 on Delta Lane at Morey Airport. Bring a dish to pass. Jeff Russell and Jeff and Patty Plantz are hosting. Bring your favorite beverage, dessert or side dish and your dancing feet. Ron Denson will be playing 8:30-10:30. The campfire will be available for s-mores. We should have enough burgers and bratsif ya snooze you might lose though. A small \$ donation would be appreciated for food and music. Security gate will be open or supervised. See you rain or shine!

- Jeff Plantz

April Chapter Meeting



Cold War era reconnaissance pilot Col. Laverne Griffin, U.S.A.F. (retired), informed and entertained us with stories about his missions. L-R – Col. Griffin, Jack Jerred and Fred Liedel. Col Griffin explained all about his reconnaissance missions which were finally declassified around ten years ago. It was great to see photos which were kept secret for 50 years!



Brian, our chapter's latest scholarship recipient, thanked us for helping him to complete his private pilot training.
- Jonie Fobes photos

Heavy Bomber Weekend News



Heavy Bomber Weekend Fundraising Effort Continues

Plans continue to move forward nicely for this year's Heavy Bomber Weekend event. We are excited to be partnering once again this year with the Commemorative Air Force. For this year's

event we have agreed to assist the CAF Minnesota Wing in their fund raising activities to help defray fuel and other operating costs. Please use the attached flyer as a guide to solicit friends, family and business associates for their tax deductible \$500 or \$1,000 contributions. We are now approximately halfway to our goal of \$5,000. With your help we can meet this goal!

- Rob Tweed

WIN A RIDE IN THE B-25 “MISS MITCHELL”!

Yes, that is correct! Every “DUES paid” Chapter 93 members’ name will be placed in a drawing. One (1) Lucky Chapter 93 member will win a ride to be awarded at the Heavy Bomber Weekend.

Easy to enter, pay your dues! (Those yet to pay 2014 membership dues will be notified by email or U.S. Mail and given the chance to re-up.) Also invite a new member to join and that person’s name will be added to the drawing. As well as you can claim one of three (3) “bring a new member” prizes. You can pick an EAA Chapter 93 golf shirt, or have your 2014 dues reimbursed, or a gift certificate to O’Malley’s Jet Room. Hey, you can’t lose!

- Don Ripp

Trip to Sun ‘n Fun in Lakeland 2014

Sun ‘n Fun is not as large as AirVenture but it is just as interesting and has more opportunities for hands-on types of experiences if you’re building your own plane. The crowds are smaller in size than AirVenture but still have an international flare. You can attend seminars in the morning starting at 9:00 AM and running to 1:00 PM. The seminars are a mix of information on engines to airparks to future fuels. The seminars are held in an aviation based high school on the grounds. The vendors are housed in 4 hangers and on the grounds. A fly-mart is housed in a fifth hanger where you can find anything from old books on aviation or aircraft parts, basically determined by what is brought in for sale.



You can spend the afternoon looking at aircraft that flew in for the convention, which includes military as well as personal. No fly-in is complete without an air show which has the big names. This year the Blue Angels were back and put on a demonstration on Friday, Saturday and Sunday with a separate demonstration of two F-22's being put through their paces.



The Blue Angels (Six of them – look closely!)



F-22s

You can also see a couple of night air shows, which I can't help to wonder if AirVenture didn't copy Sun 'n Fun since that is where I saw the first one. On Saturday morning was the hot air balloon launch with about thirty plus balloons taking off making for a pretty sight. The weather this year was excellent with lows in the mid-sixties to day time highs in the mid-eighties, which really feels good for some snow birds that are getting pretty tired of the cold. I hope that I will be able to make a return trip next year.



I almost forgot that this year there was also a car show.



Hope to see you there!

- Earl Martin

Book Review

“The Bishop’s Boys – The Life of Wilbur and Orville Wright” by Tom Crouch, 606 p. of small type, paperback, copyright 1989 W. W. Norton and Co.

The first 104 p. are devoted to the life and family of Bishop Milton Wright of the Church of the United Brethren, a controversial conservative person, a foe of the Masonic Order, who was eventually voted out of office.

Wilbur and Orville began their business careers running a combined printing and bicycle manufacturing business, but as a hobby were into kites and gliders, and finally the powered airplane, which they first flew on p. 268.

The rest of the book involves setting and breaking records of distance, speed, altitude; endurance; patent suits; air shows; flying passengers; finally, the use of aircraft in WWI.

The book was not an easy read, but very interesting never-the-less. It was purchased for me by my son, Jim, and daughter-in-law, Alice, at the Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

- Fred Leidel

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