

**Experimental Aircraft Association
Chapter 701 – Mansfield, Massachusetts**



**April 2006
Newsletter**

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From the President's Desk *by Mike Vidal*

THEME OF THE MONTH: LIFE GETS IN THE WAY

Finding the time this month to write this article has been a microcosm of sorts of the process of building a kitplane. It started this time about a week ago when I begin telling myself "It's time to write for the newsletter. It should only take about an hour". That was my first mistake.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were late nights at work due to some customer issues. Each of those nights had me coming home to neighborhood children being babysat, a needy beagle puppy, some extracurricular activity for one of the kids, etc. By 10pm, things seemed to settle down (except for the beagle puppy). Thursday I managed a couple hours in the garage working on the plane. Friday was another late night at work followed by seeing my daughter in the "Prince and the Penguin" then Sundaes at Bliss Dairy.

So here I sit Saturday morning, waiting for my in-laws to arrive to see the repeat performance of the "Prince..." and trying to write something interesting at the same time. I was right about it taking only an hour to write the newsletter (actually it was less). It was finding that hour that was the hard part.

Sot of like building an airplane...

Happy Flying!

Mike Vidal

Visit us on the web at www.eaa701.org

Secretary's Report *by Barbara Beech*

EAA Chapter 701 - Meeting Notes - March 17, 2006

- The meeting was brought to order at 7:30pm by President Mike Vidal. Twenty-one members were in attendance.
- The February meeting notes were approved as written in the newsletter.
- The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.
- Airport Commission Meeting 3/9 Notes:
- Use of the new Meeting Room by non-profit groups was approved. Groups must fill out a form and present it to the Airport Commission.
- A seminar will be held in the building in April.
- The new badges are in and will cost \$45.00 for three years.
- The T Hangers were to be shipped from Florida on March 21st and are expected to arrive in Mansfield on March 23rd.

Old Business:

Young Eagles flights will be conducted on Saturday, May 20th. The rain date will be Sunday, May 21st. Five volunteer pilots and three ground crew helpers are needed. Please contact Paul LaFratta as soon as possible if you are able to help. This is a great program for kids. If you know of any youngsters who are interested in a Young Eagles Flight, let Paul know. The April meeting will feature Jim Griffin, who will discuss auto pilots and other avionics for general aviation.

New Business:

- There will be a fly-in on Sunday, May 21st at Warwick, New York.
- Mike is working on the June homebuilt event, which will feature tips on how to buy, build and license a homebuilt. Food will be available.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45.

The speaker for the evening was **Paul Clark, M.D.**, the FAA Flight Surgeon for the New England Region. Coming from an airline family, Dr. Clark is familiar with medical issues and understands their importance to pilots. He discussed the AME Assisted Special Issuance (ASSI) Program. This program was started in 1992 in order to reduce the backlog of 3rd class special issuance medicals. Dr. Clark has the authority to do certifications the same as Oklahoma City. In addition to explaining this system and the most common medical conditions that it covers, Dr. Clark outlined the causes, symptoms and prevention of hypoxia.



Dr. Paul Clark, FAA Flight Surgeon for the New England Region

Secretary's Report (Continued)



He also discussed the effects of legal and illegal drugs and the statistics related to their appearance in fatal accidents. A lively question and answer period followed. It was mentioned that AOPA has forms that can be filled out and brought to the medical exam and this will facilitate the process. Dr. Clark cited the FAA.GOV website, which has information on licenses and certificates, the medical (<http://faa.gov/pilots/medical>) and the sport pilot certificate.

We thank Dr. Clark for taking the time to enlighten us about these important issues.

Sun-N-Fun 2006 ("re-cap") by Kevin Buonagurio

Okay, everyone can start flying again. The 'kick-off event' to the general aviation season has come and gone. The annual event at Lakeland FL was well-attended and I'd like to share some of my observations, and these are all editorial in nature, so if you like to argue counter-points, by all means, submit an article for the newsletter:

First – GA is in no way a declining hobby, but the makeup of GA, (who's doing the flying and what aircraft are they choosing) seems to be shifting. My father and I were surprised by the sheer number of people crowding all of the 'light-sport' vendors (both kit and production planes). It's been discussed before, so I will sum this up in one sentence: With the average age of the GA pilot on the rise, and with the financial barriers of entry for young pilots, it seems that the light-sport aircraft and sport pilot rating are going to play a BIG role in the GA future.

Second – To go along with the first observation, I was surprised by the apparent lack of interest in the 'conventional' aircraft vendors. Piper, Cessna, and Beechcraft were all well-represented with many aircraft and factory reps ready to answer your questions (and take your orders), however, these booths were akin to a ghost town compared to the light-sport vendors, or the 'progressive' aircraft manufacturers such as Diamond, Cirrus and Liberty. Is it time for the big three of GA to re-tool?

Third – ...and this isn't an observation, but rather a decision. In continuing with last month's article, I've used my trip to sun-n-fun to barrage the reps of Zenith and Sonex with questions on their designs, build times, performance, etc. I won't bore you with all the details here (just yet), but suffice to say that I've made my decision...I will be building a Sonex. I will from time to time, write some editorial columns on my progress and homebuilding in general, once I get started. Wish me luck!



Happy as a clam with my decision! Let's see how the build process goes...

Young Eagles Event – Saturday, May 20th 2006

We still need pilots and ground volunteers for our Young Eagles Event. If you have questions about the event or would like to participate, please contact Paul LaFratta (508-695-0120) as soon as possible. If you plan to participate as a pilot, please review the requirements, complete and sign the form below and return this to Paul or one of the officers at the next meeting.

EAA 701 - Young Eagles Event - Requirements Acknowledgement Sheet

The Young Eagle Pilot requirements are basic, but must be followed:

- All participating pilots must hold an Appropriate Airmen's Certificate (Sport Pilot or greater)
- Pilots must possess a current Medical Certificate (if applicable)
- Pilots must be current EAA National Members
- Pilots must be current to carry passengers in the aircraft the plan to use.
- Pilots must have a current Flight Review
- Aircraft Passenger Liability Insurance is required for the aircraft used (owned, rental or borrowed)
- The Young Eagles registration form must be completed before the flight complete with parent or guardian signature.
- The aircraft used for the flight must be in airworthy condition.

As an EAA member, pilots participating in the Young Eagles program are eligible for an additional \$1 million of passenger liability insurance coverage, if they carry a minimum of \$100,000 per seat liability insurance.

I, _____ having read the requirements above, attest that I
(First, Last, printed name)
meet these requirements and therefore am a valid volunteer participant for the Young Eagles program.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

April Meeting

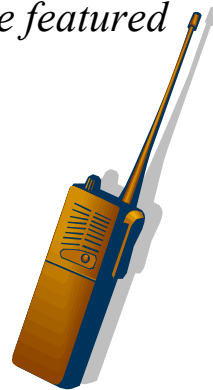
James Griffin, owner of Griffin Avionics in Hyannis, MA will be the featured speaker at the April meeting.

Location: Mansfield Fish and Game
Date: Friday, April 21 st
Time: 7:30 PM.

Join us for an informative evening discussing autopilot electronics and associated mechanical parts. Focusing on the maintenance aspect, Mr. Griffin will discuss autopilot care and use in order to minimize expensive maintenance as well as failure in use.

We will also discuss other cockpit electronics such as in-flight weather receivers, GPS, TCAS (handhelds) etc.

Bring your questions for the Q/A period.



Volunteers Needed – June Event

We are in the process of organizing an event for Saturday, June 17th that will introduce would-be aircraft builders to the world of building your own airplane. The event would consist of two one-hour seminars covering selection, tools and techniques and another covering legalities of owner built and operated aircraft (record keeping, maintenance, registering, operating limits, etc.). The seminars would be followed by burgers, dogs, drinks and conversation on the deck at the trailer. I will have more details at the April meeting, but anyone willing to help, please let me know. Thanks, Mike V.



...and now for something completely different

Can you find all the aviation terms?

Aviation

T	H	R	O	T	T	L	E	U	F	A	H	W	W	R
O	A	I	R	P	L	A	N	E	A	C	I	L	U	E
W	S	K	P	A	P	A	F	L	A	N	L	N	C	D
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P	X	O	U	A	E	A	G	F	A	I	W	O	A	T
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I	O	E	C	B	I	Q	N	W	O	A	G	P	A	C
D	T	B	D	K	V	I	C	T	O	R	H	A	X	I
N	K	N	I	P	S	I	T	A	N	P	T	L	I	L
A	I	N	S	T	R	U	M	E	N	T	S	F	I	E
L	O	G	B	O	O	K	T	R	A	H	R	A	E	H

AIRPLANE	FAA	LOGBOOK	STATIC
ALFA	FLAP	OSCAR	TAKEOFF
APPROACH	FOXTROT	PAPA	TANGO
ATIS	FUEL	PILOT	TAXI
BALLOON	GLIDER	POWER	THROTTLE
BEACON	HELICOPTER	RADAR	TOWER
BRAVO	INSTRUMENTS	RAMP	VICTOR
CARGO	JET	RUDDER	WEATHER
CONTROLLER	KILO	RUNWAY	WING
EARHART	LANDING	SPIN	WRIGHTS
ECHO	LINDBERGH	STALL	YOKE

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EAA Chapter 701

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NOTE: An electronic version of this newsletter is available in PDF form in lieu of the hardcopy mailed version. You will be able to view the pictures in color. You will need the Adobe Reader to open the file. The Adobe Reader is available on the Net free at Adobe.com. Send your email address to: **newsletter@eaa701.org** to be included on the list to receive the PDF version. The issue will also be posted to the web site.

Newsletter Additions? Suggestions?

Your content and comments are always welcome and will assist in improving the ch 701 newsletter.

Send your news to the editor via e-mail to **newsletter@eaa701.org** or via postal mail to Kevin Buonagurio, 27 Cynthia Ln, Attleboro MA 02703. The deadline for the next issue is 10 days before the next meeting. Items received after will be included in the next issue.



Don't Forget the April Meeting!

James Griffin of Griffin Avionics in Hyannis will be the featured speaker.

(See Page 4 for more details)