

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



**August 2007
Newsletter**

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Glimpses of Osh Kosh *pictures taken by Mike Vidal during his visit of 'Airventure 2007'*



Left: Almost there...

Below: Cirrus Design's 'The Jet'



Right: Name that plane...



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Fly-in preparation

The fly-in is quickly approaching. As usual, we will require a great deal of support to make it a successful event. The fact is... the fly-in is a lot of fun...but it's also a LOT of work and the the more volunteers we have, the less work for each of us.

At the August meeting we will be detailing the final plans for the fly-in. At this meeting we will discuss the areas that we will need support in. Typical fly-in duties consist of: food service, aircraft parking, ground-based vehicle parking (cars) and the registration and children's tables.

Please plan to come to the August meeting and volunteer to work one of these areas.

Volunteers need to be at the field by 7AM on the day of the event. (September 8th)

Additional help is needed for setup the night before the fly-in beginning at 5:30PM. We will need help moving planes, setting up snow fencing, and erecting the audio system.

Youth Education Program Ideas *by Mike Foushee of chapter 729 - Columbus IN*

For several years, Brett Herrick with assistance from other chapter members has conducted aviation oriented classes at the Foundation for Youth in Columbus. He has funded this program himself with some financial assistance from the Columbus Airport and Chapter 729. The programs were initiated as a compliment to the Young Eagle Flight Program. The following is Brett's update on the FFY programs.

At the FFY, the classes continue to use the "Flight Site" that was at Parkside School. But, I have expanded these classes to include the following projects:

- Fantastic Flyer balsa glider
- FFY Flyer balsa glider
- Delta Dart balsa/tissue rubberband airplane
- "Bottle Rockets"
- Sled Kites
- Making Wooden Airplane Ribs
- Fly a remote control model airplane
- Flying Microsoft Flight Simulator
- Participating in a Young Eagle Flight Rally

There are two different ways to look at what the students gain by participating in these classes. Both are equally valid. First and most obvious, these classes are a chance to learn about aviation. The students learn about aviation by learning some affordable/age appropriate ways to be involved in aviation, some basic model making skills and they have fun. To do this, I have a series of projects that the students build and fly. Beyond this, they can fly a flight simulator or get to go flying in an airplane. The second way to view these classes is that it chance to learn basic skills that can be applied in many different ways. The skills learned can include basic math and science, weather, how to make things, goal setting and working in a group. The FFY calls this "stealth learning". I use aviation to make the classes interesting but we are teaching skills that can be applied elsewhere.

One of the things that I have found is that these classes need to be adapted to where ever they are offered. An example of this is that the Parkside Elementary School library, where we previously offered classes, has a great balcony for launching gliders. Whereas, the classes at the airport offered a nice outside area for flying models (i.e. outside the fence) and the ability to take the kids out on to the airport ramp when the models are drying.

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The classes at the Foundation for Youth have the ability to reserve the gym for flying models. But, these FFY classes need to be more flexible as attendance varies depending if the students are able to attend each week (i.e. may depend on which parent they are staying with that week or when they are getting picked up).

For these classes each student has their own set of tools that they use. This allows each student to focus on their own project. Students do not have to spend time figuring out where the needed tools went or if someone is making their project faster than them. Further, every attempt is made to use tools that are low cost and can be purchased locally (i.e. this gives examples of what they could use if they want to be making models at home). The cost of the contents of these kits is approximately \$30/each.

In making the model airplanes we want the students to learn how to build the models correctly and safely. The tools that the students use have been selected to be as safe as possible. Rather than use single edge razor blades we use razor blade holders to keep fingers further away from the sharp edge. The modeling knife that we use can not roll off the table. Students are directed to keep knives retracted or covered when not in use. The glues that the students use are washable (i.e. when CA glue is used it is used by one of the adults). Also, the students are told early in the first session that horseplay will not be tolerated.

Because I want to make sure each student has a chance to see their project fly and fly well, we don't let them take their projects home until they have flown it with us. This way we can show them how to adjust their projects to make them fly well. It also ensures that they leave with a sense of accomplishment about their projects rather than frustration. Further, with stories like "When I took it home, my cat jumped on it" "it got broken in my backpack" or "my little brother broke it" we want to make sure that they have seen their projects fly well. Having an indoor location at the FFY to fly the models in is a big advantage (i.e. the weather is dependable; the models can't fly away and it helps with keeping the kids together).

In offering these classes I try to make sure each group gets to see the EAA video tape "Young Eagle". This tape is ten years old but it has an excellent message. Namely, that one needs to have goals and the only way to achieve one's goals is to work toward achieving them. It uses a boy and his chance to fly in Curtiss Jenny to demonstrate this. I view this as a very important message independent of where each of the student's interests may lead.

Another goal of these classes is to keep the cost of offering these classes as low as possible. An example of this is that the raw materials for projects are purchased in bulk and I can use my band saw to cut the wood to the needed sizes. The students then need to round off the ends and make some measurements to apply some reference marks. By doing this, the cost of the raw materials for all of the projects except one can be kept to less than \$1.00/each. Another example is that 35 Delta Dart kits can be purchased for \$43.00. By keeping the cost low it isn't a big issue when something needs to be replaced due to errors in making the project or when repairing a broken project. Cost also is kept down by making my own jigs. Rather than having to purchase the \$10.00 jigs for setting the dihedral of Delta Dart wings I made jigs from some scrap material. Also, for winding up the Delta Darts simple fixtures were made to hold them and a hand drill makes a good winder rather than purchasing these.

Part of why I offer these classes is seeing the joy that the students have in taking these classes and part is knowing these students wouldn't be learning/exposed to these things if these classes weren't being offered. The students clearly want to be in these classes as shown by the disappointment of the students that can not be fit into a particular session. Or the joy when they get to see the projects that they made fly well and the surprise in finding out they get to take their projects home with them.

EAA Chapter 701

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Mailing
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Goes
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Don't Forget the August Meeting!

The next regular Chapter meeting will be Tuesday, August 7th, at 7:30PM at the EAA 701 Trailer at Mansfield Airport (1B9).

The grill will be on at 6:30 to serve up some fresh, delicious hot dogs!

Topics for discussion will include the annual EAA 701 fly-in

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.