

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



**June 2008
Newsletter**

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From the President's Desk *by Mike Vidal*

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC: The Future

This year represented a partial revival of activities for the chapter. We have had several very good speakers offer their time to present on topics from flying in Viet Nam to working the tower at O'Hare. Even with these speakers (and many more to come), attendance has been lackluster at best. While there is nothing that says a chapter has to be 30, 40, 100+ members to viable, my concern is the lack of new members. For all the Woody Allen fans out there, we don't want a "dead shark". We want to keep the chapter moving forward. To do that means organizing events other than speakers at chapter meetings to serve as recruiting tools. I have heard some very good ideas from members and nonmembers alike that could certainly be successful events.

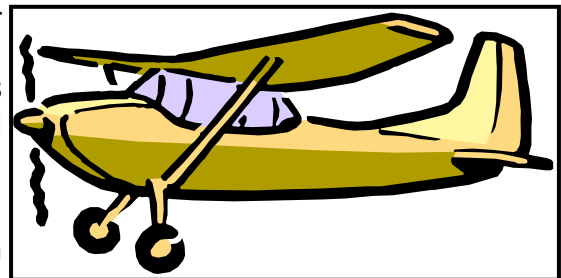
However, with two young children becoming more involved in school and extracurricular activities, I find that I must turn more of my attention to my family and away from some of my own activities. It is for this reason primarily that I will not be able to serve as Chapter President next year. I fully intend to participate as an active chapter member, but could not serve as much more than a caretaker president at best.

With half the year still left and some of our best events yet to come, I am hoping to attract some new members and entice another member to try their hand at running the chapter. I would encourage anyone with even a slight interest to contact me to discuss what is involved. Until then, I will continue to put every effort into working with the other officers and chapter members preparing for our Fly-In and all other planned events.

All in all, my years running the chapter have been a rewarding experience, but it is time for me to focus my attention elsewhere. I hope others will see this as an opportunity to set a new direction for the chapter.

Happy Flying!

Mike Vidal



Visit us on the web at www.eaa701.org

Secretary's Report *by Barbara Beech*

EAA Chapter 701 Meeting Notes - Friday, May 16, 2008

President Mike Vidal brought the meeting to order at 7:30p.m. and introduced Arlo Gambell, the guest speaker for the evening. Arlo is a former Air Force Weather officer, worked for the National Weather Service and is now employed as a Senior Aviation Meteorologist with WSI Corporation. He is a pilot and a CFI II. Arlo's informative power point presentation was entitled "Flying with Datalink Weather: Uses and Limitations of Cockpit Weather Data". He stressed the importance of the pre-flight briefing, the improvements in radar since the 50's and the need to avoid thunderstorms. In the 90's nexrad (doppler) radar was developed, which is updated every five minutes. It does have a few limitations and can be affected by factors such as strong storms that can block storms beyond, ground clutter, haze, military chaff and birds and insects. 88 composite radar removes and cleans up echoes and the above problems

With weather- in -cockpit systems, pilots should check for timeliness as each 5 minute scan takes two to three minutes to process, so the weather information can be eight minutes old. He stressed the dangerous attributes of thunderstorms. They build fast, change rapidly and cause hail, turbulence and lightning. The WSI system shows lightning cloud to cloud as well as cloud to ground and provides information about winds, cloud heights, current and potential icing conditions and temperatures aloft. It is important to avoid anvil clouds, never fly under thunderstorms and give thunderstorms a wide berth--preferably 20 miles on each side. This valuable weather information is extremely useful for flight planning and we thank Arlo for sharing his detailed and helpful knowledge of weather systems with us.

After a question and answer session with Arlo and a refreshment break, President Mike Vidal called the business meeting to order at 9:08 p.m. Fifteen members were in attendance.

- The April Secretary's notes will be corrected to read "the EAA name is not to be used in connection with regional air events".
- The Treasurer's Report was accepted as read by Joe Kelly.
- Tony Correia reported on the Airport Commission Meeting.
 - A copy of the final version of the airport rules will be available in the trailer.
 - The NDB has been flight checked by the FAA and the Out of Service Notam has been cancelled.
 - Volunteers are needed to help with the 4th grade tour of the airport on June 4th.

New Business:

- The Taunton Sport Aircraft Expo will be held on May 25th.
- The new trailer project is on hold.
- The offer to have a booth at the Women's Air Race is greatly appreciated, but we are unable to staff and handle this project.
- Fly-In planning will take place at next month's meeting.
- Trailer Clean-Up Day will be held on Saturday, May 31st from 8:00a.m to 10:00a.m.
- The speaker for June will be from Precision Air Automotive and will discuss a Beech Staggerwing restoration project.
- A discussion was held regarding the tax status of the chapter. Joe Kelly stated that a ll paperwork on this status is in order.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55p.m.

Introducing the "Newbie"

By Paul Gregory, EAA Chapter 1410

I am in many respects a "newbie." I am new to this world of homebuilding and to aviation as a whole. Unlike some of our members, I have not assembled anything more complicated than a scale model aircraft, nor am I a high-time pilot.

Despite always being interested in aircraft since I was six, it wasn't until I was thirty-four that I did anything about it. At the time I had a false alarm regarding my heart and this scare made me change some of my priorities - so I decided to learn to fly. Every week I learned to fly despite juggling the responsibilities of launching my own software services company and the arrival of my second child. This was eight years ago.

Once I earned my wings in 2001, I enthusiastically took up friends and family for rides. But my friends at the time were not aviation junkies so the thrill of solo \$100 hamburger flights began to wane and I never got over being a newbie and an outsider to general aviation. Like many other newly licensed private pilots I began to leave the hobby.

For the intervening years I let my priorities shift back and let life take me over—I continued to build my company, Intervera Data Solutions (with two business partners), and watch my daughter Sarah and younger son Jonathon grow up. My passion for aviation never died and I never stopped reading about it as my wife Mary can testify to by pointing to all the boxes of magazines and flying books as evidence! Despite this, I stopped flying.

In 2004, I came across the International EAA website and I thought I'd join. At first I enjoyed the articles in *Sport Aviation* magazine and I began to think about the possibility of building my own aircraft. But the stories covered people far away from home and as a newbie I remained intimidated that I could never tackle such a project alone.

A year later, a newsletter arrived in the mail from a newly formed group based in High River. From reading this newsletter, I realized that there were others in Alberta who not only considered homebuilding but also had done it! With encouragement from many, I decided to drive down from Calgary and see what this group was all about. From the first moment I walked into the meeting room in the flight services building, I realized that I had found a group of like-minded people from many different walks of life who were passionate about the same thing. I joined EAA Chapter 1410 High River that night.

Since joining the chapter, I changed and made aviation a priority again. I signed up for pilot recurrency training, got all checked out and now I fly regularly either renting or flying with chapter friends. I flew down to Oshkosh in 2006 and along with twenty other chapter members volunteered in the "Lancaster at Oshkosh" tent. I took two EAA SportAir Workshops courses at High River - Sheet Metal Basics and Electrical Systems. Last year my family hosted the Ram River Fly-Out and later we drove down with our trailer to the Arlington Northwest Fly-in. I volunteered to play an active role in the chapter.

It is 2008 now and I haven't committed to a homebuilt yet, but I am fine with this since I will know when the time is right. So, I still consider myself a newbie. But now I am among friends who are either newbies themselves or remember being one and are enthusiastically willing to help.

CHICKEN WINGS®

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



EAA Chapter 701

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EAA 701 – June Meeting

The next regular Chapter meeting will be Friday, June 20th, at 7:30PM at the EAA 701 Trailer at Mansfield Airport (1B9). Yes..it's summer, we're back at our trailer!



We will be firing up the grill and throwing some hot dogs on, so plan to come by the trailer around 6:30PM for food and socializing on the first evening of summer.

Our speaker for the evening will be **Alan Jesmer**, Product Support and Marketing of **Precision Airmotive LLC**. He will give a presentation on fuel management and ignition systems.

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.

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.