

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



**September 2007
Newsletter**

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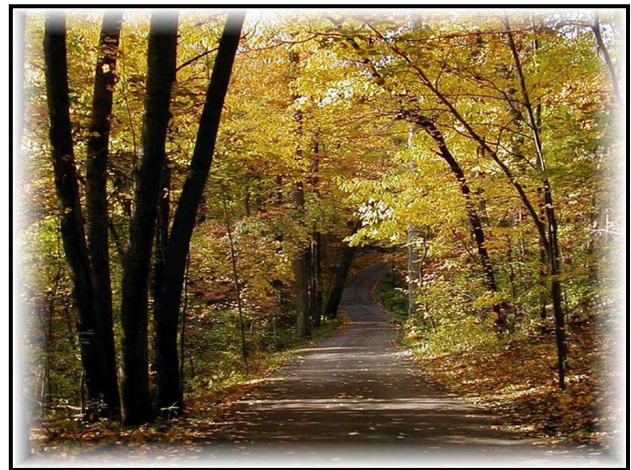
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From the President's Desk *by Mike Vidal*

THIS MONTH'S TOPIC:

Season of Change

As we approach our chapter's most important time of year, I can't help but think about the past and the future. As everyone is pretty well aware, chapter attendance it has been shrinking. We have tried a few changes such as a new meeting night with little success. Growing the membership has been a topic of discussion for the last few years at officer and chapter meetings. In one recent conversation, the question came up "what is our chapter about". I would like to take an opportunity to try and address this from a couple directions. One direction being what we are not, the other, what we could be.



First, what we are not. It is clear to me in all the years I have been a chapter member, that our focus is not the construction of aircraft. It has been over three years since we have had a Builder's Breakfast and have had few visits by current or potential homebuilders. Couple that with the fact that chapter has neither the place nor the finances to construct a hangar, and a focus on the active homebuilder is difficult. This is a definite weakness of the chapter that has been cited by a few prior members. My strong belief is that to pursue a course of creating a homebuilder focused chapter is a dead end.

So what are we and what can we be? I propose we play to our strengths. And what are they, you ask? For one, we have a very active, well educated group of pilots in the chapter. We have a small, but active, group of homebuilders eager to share what they know. My proposal: Focus on aviation and homebuilding education. In order to keep chapter member efforts manageable, we would put all chapter events on a yearly loop and look for a new audience every year.

Visit us on the web at www.eaa701.org

President's Report *(continued)*

A sample calendar would be:

January	February	March	April	May	June
Yearly Planning / Guest Speaker	Host Cub/Boy/Girl Scouts	Host Cub/Boy/Girl Scouts	Choosing, Building and Registering a Homebuilt	Young Eagles	Builders' Clinic (at member's home)
July	August	September	October	November	December
Cookout / Recruiting	Host FAA Wings Meeting	Fly-In	Young Eagles	Elections	Holiday Party

If in any given month we can attract a guest speaker, then that would be a bonus. Otherwise we would focus on planning for the upcoming events. Thoughts?

Happy Flying!

Mike Vidal

Secretary's Report *by Barbara Beech*

EAA Chapter 701 Meeting Notes—Tuesday, August 7, 2007

- At 6:30p.m., 14 members enjoyed a cook-out consisting of hot dogs, chips, hermits, muffins, coffee and tonic. (Known elsewhere as soda). There was also much good conversation.
- The members welcomed Florian, a young man from France. Florian is visiting this country in order to improve his knowledge of the English language so that he can compete for an aviation scholarship in France.
- The meeting was brought to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Mike Vidal.
- There was no July Secretary's Report to read and approve because the July meeting consisted of 20 hungry members partaking of hot dogs, corn, potato salad, pasta salad, veggie kabobs, beans, peanut butter cookies, donuts, coffee and tonic. Our thanks to the members who contributed all that food and to those who did so much work to buy and cook the food for both cook-outs.
- The Treasurer's Report was read by Joe Kelly and approved by the members.
- The Airport Commission notes were read by Joe Kelly:
 - Quadrant I paving was planned for Thursday, August 2nd
 - The PAPI wiring is done and the system is running
 - The helicopter landing area has not been decided upon
 - The commissioners are working on a noise abatement plan
 - The Boy Scout landscaping project at the SRE building has been completed
 - New oil tanks are planned
 - A new gas pump with 2 hoses was discussed
 - Remote controls for Gate B and the Casey Gate are needed.

Old Business:
None

Secretary's Report *(continued)*

New Business:

- President Mike Vidal described a communication he had received from Joe Kuberka, who does presentations on mountain flying. A discussion ensued about the possibility of having this gentleman speak at the October meeting and whether the meeting could be held as a safety seminar. Mike will discuss this possibility with Casey Aviation and King Aviation. It was voted to offer Mr. Kuberka an honorarium of \$100 to help with his expenses.
- Fly-In:
 - The Insurance certificate has been given to the Airport Commission.
 - Help is needed on Friday Sept. 7th from 4:00pm to 5:00pm to help with fences, etc.
 - Volunteers are needed on Fly-In day, Sat. Sept 8th to help with parking planes and cars, cooking, judging, and clean-up in the afternoon. Any amount of time that you can contribute will be greatly appreciated.
 - Al Meserve will be in charge of parking and Dale Fox will be in charge of cooking.
 - The insurance, porta-potties and military vehicles are all set.
 - Dealers are needed for the fly/flea market.
 - There will be a kid's area, headed by Mike's wife Lisa and his children.
 - Individually wrapped brownies and cookies are needed. These are always big sellers and so delicious!
 - Young Eagle names will be taken at the Fly-In and the flights will be conducted the following Saturday.
 - Clean coolers in which to put ice and water and tonic, etc. are needed.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 4th.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20p.m.

Fly-In – Food Tent Help Needed *By Dale Fox*

It's fly-in time again. We'll be setting up the food stand beginning around 7 AM. It should be a lot of fun and more so the more people participating.

We need a few clean, large coolers for the soda.

Bake goods, individually wrapped for sale are appreciated. Airplane themed cookies are always a hit.

Because of other commitments, some folks won't be able to be there this year so if you can lend a hand at the food stand especially during the busy lunch period of 11-1pm it would be a big help. People tend to pass up the stand if they see a big line waiting.

CHICKEN WINGS

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



EAA Chapter 701

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Don't Forget the September Meeting!

The next regular chapter meeting will be **Tuesday, September 4th, at 7:30PM** at the EAA 701 trailer at Mansfield Airport (1B9). We will be discussing last minute prep for the 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, (508-639-9214). The deadline for the next issue is 10 days before the next meeting. Items received after will be included in the next issue.