



# CHAPTER 81

## SKY WRITER

November 2009 Newsletter

### **Meeting Notice!**

Next Chapter Meeting - 21 November at 10AM  
A project meeting at Robert Miller's home to  
view his Kit Fox project (see map, page 4)

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### **Chapter Notes**

In our chapter meeting of 17 October, Buck Clippard received the FAA's "Master Pilot" award, presented by an FAA representative from Scottsdale.



Buck sent the following note after the ceremony:

*To members of EAA Chapter 81, Please accept my appreciation for attending the award ceremony this past Saturday for when I received the Wright Brothers "Master Pilot" Award. I was very honored receiving this award from the FAA for my over 50 continuous years of flying without incidents. Thanks to those who attended and a very special thanks to Mike Halloran, the FAA Safety Director, who drove all the way down from the Scottsdale office on Saturday morning to present this award; Duane Boyd, our president, who provided a decorated cake and refreshments; and Hal Burlingame who furnished the DVD projector for the showing of my presentation. Thanks again to all. - Buck Clippard*

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### **Nemesis coming to Tucson**



Jon Sharp's Nemesis Air Racing Company is relocating from Mojave to the Tucson area. Jon is a 15 Time Reno National Champion holding over 100 Reno Heat or Race Records in Formula One and Super Sport classes. Jon has expressed an interest in getting involved with our Tucson EAA Chapter. We look forward to the opportunity to meet Jon and his wife Patricia, who he says "loves Kitfoxes". You can learn more about Jon at <http://www.nemesisnxt.com/>.

## **Upcoming Events**

- 21 November, 10 AM, Chapter Project Meeting at Robert Miller's home (see map, page 4)
- 9 December, 6pm, Annual Holiday dinner at El Corral (See attached Reservation Form)

## **EAA Chapter 81 Meeting Minutes**

October 17, 2009

Meeting was called to order by President Duane Boyd. Miraculously, all officers of the chapter were in attendance and, to all appearances, sober.

Treasurer's Report: Mick Myal reports that we have \$2,281.99 in the bank. A CD rolled over on October 7, initially valued at \$6,900, and is now worth \$7,319.93. Mick, who is pathologically honest, wondered what we should do with the loot. Several of those in attendance had suggestions to offer, most completely self-centered, and a few even having something vaguely to do with aviation. One of the more practical suggestions was that we purchase a showcase in which to display Chapter 81 possessions, such as books and photos, in our meeting room. This would require permission from the Airport Manager, and the prez is going to inquire. One member suggested that we form a committee to decide what to do with the money, but most of us felt that wasn't necessary. Finally, it was decided that the membership offer suggestions about how Chapter 81 funds should be best utilized to promote our goals of aviation and education and present them at the November Project Meeting for consideration. Suggestions can also be submitted to Webmaster Bruce Noon.

There was no Secretary's Report, as Secretary Bob Miller was forced to play hooky in order to attend the annual Kitfox Factory Fly-In and Pig Roast at Homedale, Idaho. This momentous event, unfortunately, took place over the same weekend that Neil Cubbon presented the progress on his RV9-A project. Those who attended the Project Meeting tell us that the wings are on, so it's beginning to look a lot like an airplane! Although Bob regrets having missed Neil's presentation, he is happy to report that he had the opportunity to fly another Kitfox, and the fire of his enthusiasm for his project has been re-lit. Hopefully, this will result in some progress being made on his Kitfox, which will be the subject of the November 21 Project Meeting.

Old Business: Tom Sargent, who has been working on his RV6-A for 11 years, is ready for first engine start. The aircraft is painted, and he is very close to being finished. As previous Chapter 81 President Bob Hasson required 11 years to build his RV6-A, Tom will hold the new record for time spent building one of these marvelous aircraft.

New Business: Buck Clippard has been speaking to Tom Keating of Pinal Airpark, and has been able to arrange a tour of the aircraft there. Among the many and mysterious

workings at Pinal Airpark, there were 3 conversions of Boeing 747-400s into Super Guppies. These were cargo conversions with an enormous front opening for transport of very large missile parts. We have asked Buck whether this could be set up for our February meeting, when the weather will be suitable for an outdoor meeting (if it's not raining). If this took place, we would rearrange our meeting schedule to begin with a Chapter Meeting at the Ryan Field meeting room in January, 2010, and have Project Meetings on even months.

Secretary Miller volunteered his lovely wife Lori to reprise her role as Christmas Dinner coordinator. The present members were satisfied with the previous site, El Corral Restaurant, and Lori will arrange for invitations to be sent to all members. Things get a little hectic as we approach Christmas, so the Christmas dinner will take place a bit early in the month, on Wednesday, December 9 at 6PM, and a limited menu is provided on the invitation. New business, of course, also included the upcoming Copperstate Fly-In, taking place Thursday Oct. 22 through Saturday Oct. 24. Volunteer Coordinator (and Chapter 81 Vice President) Hal Burlingame updated us on the program and solicited volunteers to help, especially with cleanup after the event. Secretary Bob Miller chimed in that he would be presenting a Forum: A History of Kitfox, on Saturday, and that he and his wife Lori, would be volunteering for cleanup on Sunday.

The next order of business was an Award Presentation for our own Buck Clippard. Mike Halloran of the FAA Safety Team, presented Buck with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award, presented only to those who have been actively flying for more than 50 years. Buck began flying in 1952, and his first aircraft was a \$325, 75 HP J5 Cub. He attended ROTC in college, advancing to a PA-18 with 110 HP. This trend toward more power continued with his enlistment in the Air Force, where he flew the T-6, the T-28, the T-33, and then the F-86. After the Air Force, he flew for the Air National Guard. He was recalled during the Cold War to fly F-84s over France and Germany and still has the ejection seat (which apparently came in very handy) from one of his missions. His 27-year airline career began with Delta, and included flying for Eastern Airlines and Pan Am. He flew Lockheed Connies, Boeing 707s, 727s, 737s, the Airbus A310, and he retired at age 60 as Captain, flying Boeing 747s. He continued on as Flight Engineer until his final retirement. Buck graciously received his award and then narrated a video presentation of a flight he Captained, as seen from the flight deck of the 747 Pan AM Clipper Ocean Pearl, making a routine 5-hour flight from New York to Los Angeles, with air-to-air photography provided via a Lear Jet! Much to the relief of his passengers, this flight did not require the use of an ejection seat. Buck was heartily congratulated on his well-earned award and fabulous flying career by the enthusiastic members of Chapter 81.

Meeting was adjourned at 1125. The next meeting will be a Project Meeting held on Saturday, November 21 at 1000 at the home/garage/workshop of Secretary Bob Miller. A map will be provided on the Website and in the Newsletter.

Bob has allegedly made some progress on his Kitfox, or, at least, he now claims to know where most of the parts are. Those who were unable to attend his Copperstate forum might pick up a tidbit or two of Kitfox lore.

Respectfully Submitted  
Robert Miller, Secretary



### Other Chapter News

We are saddened to note the passing of Jon Engvall on 6 October. We received a note from his wife, Charlotte: *We have been in San Diego since March 1 while Jon was waiting for a lung transplant. He passed away while waiting at UCSD Medical Center on October 6. He really missed going to your meetings as he had been a member of 2 chapters of the EAA in Massachusetts for many years and had been an advocate of the Young Eagles and was active in the program. He also held many offices in each of the chapters including President.* - Thank you, Charlotte Engvall

### Copperstate 2009 Views



## CLASSIFIEDS

11/09

### Tools For Sale

Sold my airplane and cleaned out my hangar.  
Reference Prices are 2005/6 A/C Spruce catalog.

**Will sell for best offer.**

1. Safety wire pliers \$22.85
2. Wire stripper (does A/C wire) \$15.95
3. Terminal crimping tool (auto) \$43.95
4. Fiber glass pizza cutter \$8.95
5. A/C 100 degree countersink \$6.95
6. Tubing bender 1/8, 1/4, 3/8 \$33.30
7. Epoxy ratio pump \$250.00
8. Icom-IC-A23 Portable Nav/Com Transceiver (New in box) \$304.00

Contact Mel Bina at (520) 615-1055

pusherpilot1@gmail.com

12/09

### 2001 Express S-90 Odyssey For Sale



**\$80,000** (Trades Considered)

Continental IO-550-G (280 HP)

McCaughey B2A34C225 paddle-blade Propeller  
(Both 140 Total Time Since New)

190 MPH, 12 GPH, 90 gallon fuel capacity

1140 pound useful load, 4 passenger

For more info and specs go to to

[www.chamberlainaviation.com](http://www.chamberlainaviation.com)

and click on "Express For Sale"

**Contact Bruce Newlan,**

**520-531-8571(H) 520-907-7534(C)**

[bnewlanwine@earthlink.net](mailto:bnewlanwine@earthlink.net)

**Hangar Space Available**

One-half of a 120x100 hangar available at Mobile Air west beginning Nov 1st. The rent is \$270.00/mo

Contact Len Spina .(520) 731-2558

[LenS790501@aol.com](mailto:LenS790501@aol.com)

**Check out the Chapter Website at**  
<http://WWW.EAA81.ORG/>

That's all for now.

**Erik Fjerstad, Newsletter Editor**

Note: Please send items of interest, classifieds,  
 (mailto:newsletter81@eaa81.org)  
 or to Erik's address on front page.

**Chapter Officers & Staff**

- Duane Boyd, President (931) 472 4700  
<mailto:citationpilot60@hotmail.com>
- Hal Burlingame, Vice Pres. (520) 977-8600  
<mailto:eea81@theriver.com>
- Bob Miller, Secretary (520) 322-0677  
<mailto:rmiller88@msn.com>
- Mick Myal, Treasurer (520) 881-2232  
<mailto:mick@dcn2.net>
- Bruce Noon, Webmaster (520) 760-5925  
<mailto:Webmaster81@eaa81.org>
- Joe Sielbold, Director (520) 818-0603  
<mailto:seiboldj@aol.com>
- Stan Gorman, Director (520) 886-6533  
<mailto:smcgreevy@msn.com>
- Erik Fjerstad, Newsletter (520) 578-2005  
<mailto:newsletter81@eaa81>

**Tech Counselors:**

- Gil Alexander (520) 544-8191  
<mailto:gilalex@q.com>
- Eldon Helmer (520) 744-9150  
<mailto:mirage@copper.net>
- Norm Radtke (920) 921-5125
- Chuck Valade (520) 579-6235  
<mailto:bd4flyer@netzero.net>

**Next Chapter 81 Meeting**

21 November, 2009, 10AM

A Project Meeting at Robert Millar's Residence to view his Kitfox project  
 2709 E Kleindale Rd, Tucson, AZ  
 (520) 322-0677

