

# CHAPTER 81

# SKY WRITER

February 2009 Newsletter

**Notice!**

**The next Chapter 81 Meeting is at Ryan Field  
on Saturday, 21 February at 10 AM**

## **EAA Chapter 81 Meeting Minutes**

### **Saturday, Jan. 17th**

This was a combined meeting between Tucson Chapter 81 and Casa Grande Chapter 1445, held at the Terminal Building at the Casa Grande Airport. The meeting was held in conjunction with a Pancake Breakfast and Fly-In. Tucson Chapter 81 Vice President Hal Burlingame was an early arrival; unpacked, and ready to run with the Pancake Breakfast paraphernalia by the time that the volunteer chefs were ready to start at 0800. Hal also made the eggs and ham while others took turns making the pancakes, and he did the majority of the cleanup as well! We applaud his industry and are in awe of his energy! The Fly-In was well-attended by members of both chapters, and nobody went home hungry.

The formal Chapter Meetings were called to order by Chapter 1445 President, Mike Still at 1005. The first order of business was to recognize guests, who had flown in from as far away as Michigan, Colorado, and even Maryland! Next was a review of an article written by Tom Poberezny about Who is the EAA Serving? Apparently, some had criticized EAA for getting away from its homebuilding roots. Poberezny

argued passionately that there is a large pool of aviation enthusiasts, from which are filtered down much smaller pools of pilots and craftsmen. The big pool of enthusiasts is necessary for the survival of the organization as it is the source of the smaller pools. Therefore, EAA must attract aviation enthusiasts of all kinds, whether it be warbirds,



antiques, aerobatics, homebuilders, or even just pilots of certificated aircraft. Mike also made note that a new "Experimenter" newsletter will be sent out to all EAA members once, requiring a response before continuation. There is also a FAA newsletter which recently addressed Special Issue Medical Certificates.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports (of Chapter 1445) were accepted by vote. There was also a brief report about the Chapter 1445 visit to nearby Eloy, and announcement about the Member Profiles being solicited.

The next order of business was about aircraft Weight and Balance (W&B). The Casa Grande chapter has a \$3600 set of sensitive and certified accurate aircraft scales for use of all EAA members. A&P (Airframe and Powerplant) Steve Hartwell will do W&B for Certificated aircraft, and Experimental builders can do their own. It was noted that the first volunteer to use the scales found that his airplane was 100# heavier than his bathroom scales had suggested! The scales can be used for a donation of \$50 to the Casa Grande Volunteer Fliers (NOT EAA), and aircraft can be weighed empty or full of fuel. It was suggested by a chapter member that a seminar on W&B be put together for a future meeting.

Steve Hulland, Casa Grande Airport Manager, made a four-point presentation:

1. The airport is making fuel available to fliers-in for \$2.95 per gallon, a nickel less for cash.
2. Noise Abatement procedures will help keep runways open; please, when departing runway 5, do not make your turn until at I-10.
3. The TSA's proposal for large aircraft is aimed not just at commercial, but at private aircraft! This is an unprecedented attempt to regulate general aviation under its charter of protecting National Security. If it becomes law, there is

no reason why the TSA cannot then propose regulation of other, lighter aircraft under the same banner, as precedent will have been set. The best defense against such intrusions into general aviation is an INDIVIDUAL letter written to your representatives. Steve has let us know that the Arizona Airport Association is against the proposal, and, if you value your freedoms, you should be too. You can read all about the proposal at the EAA website or in its publications.

4. Next Saturday, the Casa Grande Airport is hosting ANOTHER Pancake Breakfast.

2009 Dues are being collected by both chapters.

The Casa Grande Young Eagles Program is looking for Pilots. In the October, 2008 event, 181 were flown, more than half by Tom Snyder!

Old Business included a review of projects in progress. It was suggested that Chapter 1445 members send photos of their projects, at whatever state of evolution, to Dave Chiala to be included in the newsletter. Really Old Business consisted of the announcement that 93 year-old Roger Ellis recently completed a BFR (Biennial Flight Review).

New Business: The Cactus Fly-In (antique aircraft, but all are welcome) will be held at Casa Grande Airport on March 6 and 7, and the Copperstate Fly-In will be at the same location in October. Vick Cina, Volunteer Coordinator for the Cactus Fly-In, is soliciting, um, volunteers. The Chapter 1445 board met last week, and the topic was Planning Challenges. Three products of this meeting will be presentations at future meetings: Homebuilder Hints, a BFR seminar, and Flying Hints. Today's Homebuilder Tip, presented by Chris Howley, was on Clecoes. These are the little clamps which serve as temporary rivets for holding together sheet-metal panels for fitting before they are ready for final riveting. He demonstrated the use of Cleco pliers. He showed a trick for getting the Cleco to fit into a slightly oversized, dimpled hole, by making a backing plate out of scrap sheet metal, about 1/2 inch square with a newly drilled 1/8th inch hole. Audience participation contributed a pearl that a similar plate can be used on the outside to protect the dimple. Tucson's Gil Alexander's suggestion that Harbor Freight sold adequate Cleco pliers was rejected by another who stated that the Harbor Freight product was inferior, and that Aircraft Spruce sells higher-quality Cleco pliers for only \$5. Another participant thought that the Harbor Freight catalog also offered rivet squeezers, but the local store does not. The next demonstration was of the Black and Decker

Electromate, which for \$99, has a 400 amp jump starter, a light, a 120 PSI compressor, a 400 watt AC inverter, inflation needles, DC outlets, and can charge from 110V AC or 12V DC (although the latter is at risk for overcharging).

The final presentation was by Bob Poindexter, Fire Marshall of Eloy, who narrated a slide show of his Tiger Cruise. This is a Public Relations event where select civilians are invited to cruise on the USS Abraham Lincoln, an operational aircraft carrier fresh from the Persian Gulf. The cruise starts at Pearl Harbor, so Bob was able to visit the USS Missouri at dock there (the "Might Mo" has the biggest guns of any US battleship, then or since), and also the USS Arizona Memorial. The 5-day cruise ended with an airshow at the destination port of San Diego, and Bob was able to regale us with many details of the ship and aircraft.

It was announced that the February Chapter 1445 meeting will feature a presentation by Aerobatic Champion Kirby Chambliss. The next Chapter 81 meeting will be at the Ryan Field Meeting room on Saturday, February 21 at 1000.

Respectfully Submitted by  
Chapter 81 Secretary Bob Miller

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## **NOTES OF INTEREST**

### ***From Mary Hanson 1/17/2009***

The San Manuel Chapter is sponsoring a Bob Hanson Scholarship fund for any aviation related education for students at the San Manuel high school. It is a big commitment to offer an annual scholarship so she hopes Chapter 81 members will continue to support their Omelet Breakfast Fly Ins. (the las one was Saturday, January 24th, at the San Manuel Airport, which included a flight safety seminar.

Mary also said that their Cruisair is still down, but progress is being made on the house and getting the shop ready so she can begin covering and then painting Bob's 7/8 scale Curtiss Hawk P6-E.

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Dennis Hall is offering his Corbin ACE project for a 2009 Project Meeting as well.

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### ***New Hangar Facility Opportunity***

I am considering a project to build a T Hangar complex in NW Tucson. Looking for parties interested in leasing. Commercial enterprises possible. The actual configuration has not been finalized, let me know what you need.

***Serious inquiries only.***  
***Jim Moss 602-684-0562***

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New visitors Eric and Brandy Wolf introduced themselves: Eric is an Air Force F15 Crew Chief, quite experienced in sheet-metal construction. He has been a pilot since 1992, but stopped flying in 1994. He is volunteering to help anyone with his or her project, and is available for some right seat time as well. (afpropjock@cox.net or 520-326-8923)

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Bud Keil is new to Tucson, is a not-current IFR pilot, and is building a Factory Five Cobra kit car. He is seeking tailwheel training at Ryan and was directed to Bill McClearran ((520) 888-5906, Cell (520) 400-0522, E-mail oldstude1@yahoo.com), who has mentored other Chapter 81 members into the exclusive club of taildragger drivers.

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### ***Premium Concrete Coatings from TeamRoger.com***

Add showroom beauty and value to your hangar, garage, or commercial concrete floors with durable, practical, industrial-quality concrete coatings...Epoxy, Urethane, and Acid-Wash Stain.

**Mention this ad for pilot's discount.**

Roger Evenson, RV-7A building, Ryan Hangar C16.  
520-260-1328, revenson@comcast.net

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## ***UPCOMING EVENTS***

### ***Chapter Meetings***

21 Feb (10 AM) Ch 81 Meeting at Ryan Airfield Administration Building  
21 Mar (10 AM) Ch 81 Project Meeting at Erik Fjerstad's (either at residence or Ryan Field Hanger, to be determined) at Ryan Airfield.

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### ***Velocity Standard RG, 2004***

120 total hours. Contact Mel Bina,  
(520) 615-1055 PUSHERPILOT@wmconnect.com  
Composite-building tools and materials are also available

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## ***DUES ARE DUE!!***

Chapter dues for 2009 remain the same, only \$20.00 a year. Personal checks are preferred, either in the mail or at monthly meetings. Full cash payment totaling \$20 is accepted at meetings. As of 2/10, about 23 members haven't paid their dues.

### **Make checks payable to EAA81**

**Mail to:** Mick Myal  
2900 East Weymouth  
Tucson AZ 85716

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### ***CH Products Flight Sim Yoke***

For computer w/USB connection.  
\$75.00 Call: Ed Justice – 908-8760

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### ***Cub***

Roy McCaldin (rdcb@msn.com 520-747-2267) informed us that Bob Nelson has a yellow Cub for sale for about \$25K. It can be ogled at Air Center West, at the north end of Aviator Lane, Ryan Field.

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## ***CLASSIFIEDS***

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## **Vans RV-10 emp/tail cone kit**

Experienced RV-6 builder is offering to sell his Van's RV-10 Emp. / Tail Cone project. (I have decided that I would rather build an RV-12)

The horizontal and vertical stabilizers are finished. The elevators are partially finished, and some work has been accomplished on the rudder. There has been some work accomplished on smaller parts.

In addition, the following are included with the sale:

- Complete fuselage plans and manual Complete wing plans and manual
- Aircraft Spruce p/n 12-00903 special bucking bar
- Parts bin with clear drawers for hardware storage. All labeled with aircraft nomenclature
- 4' X 4" heavy duty work table recessed to accept a back riveting plate
- 24" X 64" platform for a "C Frame" hand riveting and dimpling tool
- Current inventory (Kit is complete)

Quality workmanship. The project is located in Prescott, AZ. I do not have the Van's shipping crate; buyer will have to pick up at the airport. I will assist in inventory and loading. I have \$3,500.00 invested. Will sell the project for \$2,695.00. You are saving over \$800.00.

Frank Benedict c-140@juno.com

928-778-1977 H 928-899-8365 C

### ***Help Available!***

I am looking to fill some free time and learn about aviation at the same time. I would like to find a person(s) at Ryan Airfield that is rebuilding, refurbishing, painting....what ever to their aircraft, or I'll just sweep your hanger. I would like to help in what ever way I can for free. I do have an eclectic background. here is a short list of skills I have an above average proficiency in: Carpentry, Electro-Mechanical install, and troubleshooting, Mechanics, fabrication, painting, electronics; trouble-shooting/install. 12v, 6v, 18v systems. Welding, computer diag and repair, GPS systems...and many more. I'm a pretty handy guy to have around in any case. I will wash, wax, sweep, mop....anything. I am wanting to immerse myself in the ' Lifestyle ' because I am working towards my PPL and I would like to spend more time around the hangers than "just for lessons" I hope some one will take me up on this, it is a sincere offer. I do have quite a bit of free time to

offer. I'm no kid @ 42 so I won't flake out on you. Please call 779-875-3819 if you are interested , or respond with an E-mail. Thanks!

**Reply to: sale-904392068@craigslist.org**

**Date: 2008-11-03, 1:27PM**

Note: Please provide items of interest, classifieds, news, etc., to the Editor (newsletter81@eaa81.org), or to Erik's address on front page.

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That's all for now.

***Erik Fjerstad, Newsletter Editor***