



THE OZARK FLYER

The Newsletter of EAA Chapter 732 - Northwest Arkansas

July, 2002

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Clarke Nielsen



JUNE MEETING

The June meeting was held at Clarke Nielsen's house in north Rogers just a little after 2:00. It was a perfect afternoon to meet outside and take a look at Clarke's Loehle P40 project. More about that later.

Rex Stewart took a few minutes to cover new and old business:

- Next month's meeting is being moved up one week because of the conflict with AirVenture.
- Rex covered the recent fly-out to Ada, Oklahoma which was less of an event than we would have liked.
- Bob Harlan gave a summary of the Young Eagles event which was held at Drake Field. Our chapter flew 67 Young Eagles (11 pilots participated) and the event went off very well. As Rex said, it will probably be the Young Eagles event by which future events are measured. Many thanks to Bob and Barry West for the work they do on Young Eagles.
- The next Young Eagles event is August 3rd at the Rogers airport.
- Jack Macy gave a status report on our efforts to acquire a trailer. We hope to have something finalized by the next meeting.
- Rex announced that there is a Board of Directors meeting Tuesday, June 17. All are invited to attend.
- Rex informed the group that a local individual has offered to donate a partial RV-4 kit for chapter use. The kit includes a completed empennage, one complete wing, and a second wing partially completed. The Board of Directors will meet to discuss how best to utilize a donation like this.
- Barry West is working on a group dinner Wednesday night for those attending AirVenture. We will meet at the chapter house at noon Wednesday to finalize plans, and a message will be posted there for anyone who can't make the noon meeting.
- Troy Bates announced that the deadline for turning in EAA book and video orders at 1/2 price is upon us. He is coordinating the ordering process.

The business meeting was concluded at about 2:45 pm.

Clarke Nielsen provided us with an excellent overview of his project, a Loehle P40 replica. The kit is a 70% replica of the H-model P40, but Clarke has made modifications to the kit so that it more closely resembles the B-model.

Clarke purchased the kit second hand, but none of the work had been started. His plans are actually for a Loehle P51, which is the airplane he originally wanted, but the P40 kit was such a good deal he couldn't pass it up. He plans on installing a Geo 3 cylinder 1,000 CC engine and hopes to turn 80 HP. The airplane should weigh about 550 lbs empty with a gross weight of 885 lbs. Clarke expects a cruise speed of around 75 - 85 MPH. With a 28' 8" wingspan, he expects to see a 30 MPH stall. Clarke intends to install a 13 gallon fuel tank which will give him loads of flying time on 2 - 3 GPH.

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JUNE MEETING... CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

So far, Clarke has invested about 300 hours in the project, and everyone I spoke with at the meeting was more than a little surprised by the kit and how good the project looks. Everyone was very complementary of Clarke's workmanship and his attention to detail. Clarke is a machinist and a mechanic at TRW, and has lots of experience building 25% RC models, so he knows his way around the materials and processes on this kit. In fact, Clarke made the comment that he couldn't do this project if he didn't have RC model experience.



Clarke discusses his project. Notice the retractable gear and the gun sight.

Modifications to the original kit include lowering the seat one inch and raising the canopy an inch also. Clarke is tall and wants to have an inch or so between the top of his head and the canopy. He has also increased the size of the rudder and the shape of the vertical stabilizer and rudder, to make them more closely resemble the P40. He has shaped the nose to get rid of some of the kits square corners and has included two "machine guns" which cleverly double as fresh air vents. The gun sights Clarke made are already in place and the shape of his airplane is much more pleasing than the shape of the original kit (to me at least.)

The down side to the project, says Clarke, is the total lack of factory support. As in zero, zip, zilch, none. Clarke says this is not a good first time airplane, but that he's enjoying himself despite the problems.

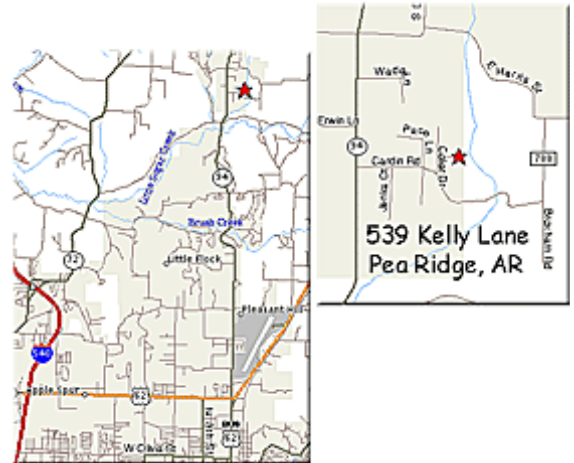
Thanks to Clarke for hosting us and filling us in on his project. We're fortunate to be drawing new members like Clarke into the group.

- Chip Gibbons

JULY MEETING - O200 POWERED KITFOX

The July meeting has changed - please make a note!! Our July meeting has been moved to 2:00 pm on **July 14**, up one week from our usual third Sunday. This is because several of our members have plans to leave the following Sunday or early Monday for Oshkosh.

Our meeting will be at Jay Hale's house in Pea Ridge and we will review his Continental O200 powered Kitfox project. Take highway 94 north out of Rogers (highway 94 runs just west of the Rogers airport through Little Flock) to Pea Ridge. Turn right on Cardin Road to Coler Drive. Turn left (north) on Coler Drive to Kelly Lane (there is no street sign here, it's Jay's driveway so just look for the "Hale Engineering" sign) and turn right. When the driveway forks take the right and cross the iron bridge to get to the shop building. Jay's address is 539 Kelly Lane - phone 451-1350 if you get momentarily displaced. This map is available on the web site in a more readable form on the "Next Meeting" page. **Bring a lawn chair!**



Don't bother wearing a tie to Bob's

FLY-OUT TO ADA, OK

The fly-out didn't go off exactly as planned. We had 6 airplanes and 14 people scheduled to make the trip to Ada for BBQ at Bob's. But bad luck stung us. Charley Scott and Francis were obvious no-shows due to Charley's heart problem the night before. Sheril Helton and his girl friend Bobbie were guests of the Scotts that night and headed back to Missouri the next morning. Barry West came down with a bad cold and he and Sherron couldn't make it. And Jack Macy suffered a minor mechanical in the Starduster on the way down and didn't make it.

So the Stewart family (Rex and Mary) and the entire Gibbons family (Chip, Becca, James, and Amanda - yes, I actually have a family!) made the trip in two airplanes, sitting at a table for 14. The weather couldn't have been better and we had a good time, but we missed you.

- Chip

WE HAD A GREAT YOUNG EAGLES EVENT!



Rex Stewart prepares to fly with one of the seven Young Eagles he was paired with during the event.

The Saturday morning sky looked great on June 8 at 8:00 AM when preparations for Young Eagles began at Drake Field. Craig McCrory of the airport staff had everything we needed when I got there. Fayetteville's support was more than excellent.

Although we didn't officially open for business until 9:00 AM, two prospects and their parents were there just after 8:00 as I was putting up our Young Eagles banner. Other prospects, pilots and ground volunteers began to appear shortly after. Bart Neal's "I'm Awe-some" program for underprivileged youth brought over 20 young people by bus with some additional adult help. They did a great job keeping the chaos down. Anyone who has ever seen young people 8 through 17 all wanting to fly at the same time will know what I mean.

Many folks who volunteered for ground duty didn't arrive until about 9:00 AM. At the Sign-In desk Mary Stewart, Jeannine Macy, Val Harlan, Dave Hill, Tom Wyatt, Ruth Wyatt and several others helped get the pilot information onto the official Young Eagle registration forms. The first Young Eagles certificates were late getting printed because I had to split my time posting signs, doing the initial ground schools, assigning volunteers to the desk, ground school, the pre-flight area and getting the computer to print the names correctly. Of course, the computer made several mistakes! About 10:30 AM things began to flow nicely and by 2:00 PM the day had become a record breaker logging 67 Young Eagles. Their average age was 11.6 with 40 boys

and 27 girls getting into the air.

Pilot turnout was the best ever. Not everyone could stay all day but 11 pilots participated. The Young Eagles flown are shown in parenthesis beside each pilot: Jim Hillabrand (7) Bonanza; Jack Macy (10) Cherokee; Rick McKinney (4) Cherokee; Tom Meredith (6) Cherokee; Scott Musgrave (1) Pacer - he flew once but a mixture cable problem grounded him; Charlie Scott Glasair IFT (7); Frank Sperandeo (4) Pacer; Rex Stewart (7) Grumman; Jim Taylor (8) Cessna 140; Warren Taylor (5) Cessna 180; Barry West (6) Kitfox - also helped with the initial setup and news articles earlier in the week. Art Hollenbeck's Luscombe developed a problem during the taxi from his hangar so he volunteered to be our dispatcher. He was excellent and did a beautiful job keeping the pilots and Young Eagles paired up, logged out and back in.

Finally, the greatest payoff for everyone was the big grin on the face of each new Young Eagle after that first flight! The grins wrapped clear around most of their faces and the pilots faces too - the joy of flight is just too contagious. Flying is FUN! We expect to see more of the same as we plan for future Young Eagle events in Northwest Arkansas.

Bob Harlan

MEMBER PROFILE - GARY SIMMONS

Gary Simmons has been a Private Pilot for 12 years and holds a single-engine land certificate. Most of his flying time has been in Cessna 152 or 172s. Gary is currently in the 40-hour test flight phase of his Hummelbird project, based at Drake Field in Fayetteville. He has been working on his project for nearly seven years. The Hummelbird is a plans-built aircraft, which means he has essentially constructed everything on the airplane. It's his favorite airplane to fly and he is looking forward to completing the test flight phase to fully enjoy the results of his hard work.

Gary and his wife have lived in Fayetteville since 1985 and have four grown children. Gary directs Unity Peaceworks, which provides mediation and conflict resolution services. He has written a book and published numerous articles based on his work. He also holds a fourth degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. You can find out more about Gary and his work at <http://www.unitypeaceworks.com>.

- Troy Bates



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New Members

Bill and Camelia Smith joined the chapter in June with plans to be involved in chapter fly-outs. The Smiths have been a part of aviation in Northwest Arkansas for years and were members of the NWA Flying Club.

Sam and Betty Scamardo of Huntsville joined the chapter at the June meeting. Sam and his wife are interested in building a Petenpole.

Mark McQueen of Fayetteville is new to aviation and joined via the internet. A student pilot, Mark is interested in any exposure to flying.

Welcome to all of these new members!

Upcoming Events

Two events are coming up in August that will require member participation:

August 3rd - Young Eagles Flight - Rogers Airport - 9:00 am until about 2:00 pm. We need pilots, airplanes, and ground crew. Check the internet for additional details and for cancellation details if the weather turns bad. Contact Bob Harlan (521-4221) or Barry West (267-5545) for more details.

August 10th - Gravette Days - Greater Gravette International Airport. There will be more information in the next newsletter, but we will be grilling hot dogs and hamburgers as a fundraiser and could use help with this event.

How's Charley Doing?

It's the most common question I've heard over the past two weeks, so I asked Charley Scott to give everyone an update. Here it is:

To all my friends who have inquired about my health since suffering a heart attack June 14th, thanks for your concern. It is good to know I have so many friends. I am truly blessed.

The attack did not leave any permanent damage to the heart, and the catheterization indicated that my arteries are "clear" which sounds good if I understand "clear" correctly.

I have gone back to work and feel a little stronger each day. I joined a gym with the intention of getting in better physical condition by swimming. I have learned just how out of condition I really am but I am determined to improve. There are a lot of places to go and a lot of Frances and I want to see while we can.

We do still plan on going to OSH this summer, hope to see most of you there.

- Charley