

Cockpit Chat

By Roger Boco

It looks like spring is finally here. Last weekend was fantastic and it was the first time that many of us took to the skies after a pretty cold winter. Remember to take it slowly the first time out for the year if you haven't flown in a while. Do some practicing by yourself first. Don't plan a long trip with a full airplane for a while until you get all of the cobwebs out of your brain...and hands...and feet.

This year, we are going to try a few different things with the club. We have access to the maintenance hangar for programs at the Ankeny airport and we should be able to put on some neat programs there. As most of you know, there are only certain kinds of programs that can be done in a meeting room that is nice and clean. In the hangar, we should be able to do riveting, fibreglassing, covering, and anything else that you can think of. Rob Miller is setting up us being able to use the hangar at times. Thanks, Rob.

Also, we are planning on having some meetings at Mark Kokstis' "hangar". You know the place. This is where we are working on the Hartman airplane. Those meetings will start earlier with a work session at the hangar and then have a meeting and a related program. We are also planning on having a pot luck meal with the chapter providing meat and soda. All you will need is a dish to pass, your own silverware, etc., and a lawn chair. Don't forget the chair, as it is no fun standing up all of the time.

We are also going to be publishing all of the programs for the entire year—a complete year calendar of sorts. The programs this year will lean towards the building of aircraft. Since the calendar is not complete, yet, I cannot say exactly what the programs will be about. Maybe the May newsletter will have everything in it. If you are interested in a particular type of work, whether it be engines, props, sheet metal, woodworking, fabric, or whatever, let me know or email Donna with you ideas on what you would like to see a program on.

If you would like to present a program on a building topic, get in touch with us the same way. If we can get all of these programs lined up, it should be a great year for programs each month.

Another item that we are going to try is to have a short question and answer session. I will try to keep this about 10 minutes in length where we will ask anyone at the meeting if they have a question about any particular topic. This could be something like, "How do I bend over a cotter key to make the FAA happy?" This may sound like a silly question to some of you, but to others it is a serious question. Believe it or not, there are actually some of us out here who don't know everything about everything. We are all learning. So, please come with your questions. Store them up, and we will see if we can get them answered for you. We have a wealth of knowledge in the chapter, and I am sure that there will be someone there who can answer your question. Please, don't be embarrassed to ask a question. It is the only way we learn!!

Well, I am just about ready to head south to beautiful and sunny Lakeland, Florida for Sun N' Fun. Gerald Clark and I will be leaving Tuesday. I am taking a digital video camera and I hope to get some good video of the first flight of the Wright Flyer. It is supposed to fly down there on Wednesday, I think. If I can get some good footage, I will bring it to the meeting to show. I am just glad that I am not the crazy poor fool who will strap himself/ herself into that contraption and then try to live through the experience. Even though Microsoft has made a great simulator, it is not substitute for putting you A--, (backside) on the line. See you when I get back.

Keep your prop turning.
Roger

NOTE CHANGE: No work party at Mark's on April 5. Work parties for April are April 12 & April 19 at 10:00 am.

PROPWASH

Chapter 135 Meeting March 8, 2003

The chapter meeting was opened at 7:05 by president Roger Bocox. Board reports were: Treasurer gave his report. Mike Abrahams announced the "Landing Award" stays with Bill Gast another year. Mike also brought up the June 6-8 YE event at Water Works Park. He said most of the pilots that will be participating do not want to fly out of Des Moines, and don't want to fly all of them the same day they sign up. The pilots are glad to fly those interested on a future date. A sign up sheet was passed around for volunteers to help at this event. Rob Miller suggested he try and get the Red Tail or B25 for the week the B-17 is here. He feels the cost would be nominal to accomplish this, and it would be a positive for the event. He will continue his efforts to accomplish this. Bill gave a YE report for Alan Core. Bill displayed a YE flag that was given to the chapter by EAA headquarters for Chapter 135 exceeding their YE goal in 2002. This flag will be a great display at YE events. Roger reported on the Hartman project. He also gave a chapter location update on meetings he and Brant have been attending at the Ankeny Airport, and also with Northfield. John Nelson, the B-17 Chairman, gave the members an update, and information on the event. A sign up sheet for the event was passed around. Progress reports were given by any member working on a project, that had progress to report.

The evening program was a video tape from Gene Larsen who got to fly a T-6 down in Kissimmee, Florida at "Warbird Adventures" He took the controls from the front seat, and chose a 30 minute flight in the T-6, along with a pilot, that allowed him to go through all the maneuvers. Look at these pictures. They are just like what Gene actually did in a T-6. There's a camera mounted at the end of the wing, to achieve these pictures. (My stomach turns over just looking at the pictures!)



This would make a great gift, if you're ever down there. The name is Warbird Adventures, next to the Warbird Museum, at the Kissimmee Gateway Airport 233 N. Hoagland Blvd. Kissimmee, FL 407-870-7366

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Dallas County Airport Leaders Move Forward With Master Plan

Preparation of a master plan for the proposed regional airport along U.S. Highway 6 between Adel and Waukee got the go ahead during a development meeting. There was \$105,000 contributed by area businesses and another \$50,000 from the county and cities involved. The pledges are now sufficient to begin the feasibility study. The Master plan will consider the feasibility for aviation activity, its compatibility with surrounding land use and other area airports. It will also address environmental and financial concerns. Public meetings will be held as the master plan is compiled. Supporters hope the new airport will be constructed within the next four to five years near the Ortonville Business Park and would serve small, private planes and corporate jets, similar to airports in Ankeny and Perry. Total cost of the project is estimated at \$13.4 million.

LANDINGS RATING SCALE

Here is the landing rating scale, compliments of Landings.com:

5. Marvelous, ace. Couldn't do better myself.
4. I've seen better; just can't remember when.
3. Average. I could do better with my eyes closed.
2. Your going to log all of those?
1. That wasn't a landing; that was an arrival.
0. Go get the trailer, boys.

Gene Larsen Open House



July 2001

Gene's Open House was great, and what a terrific day. He had the plane out in the driveway, and we all got to "kick the tires!!" Gene



April 2002

has had an open house for the last 3 years. Look at the progress he's made by the pictures here. Looks like pretty good motivation for some of you!!!

(Roger??)



March 2003



March 2003

Want To Live With Your Plane???

No, I'm not talking about "being in the doghouse" and literally living in the garage or hangar with your plane. There's a website which has information about residential airparks. These homes have hangars and access to a runway. Website is hosted by an EAA couple from Arlington, Virginia. She is a pilot, and he is building an RV-4. Check it out at: www.AirportHomes.com.

Why Airplanes Are Easier to Live With Than Women

- ➔ Airplanes usually kill you quickly, a woman takes her time.
- ➔ Airplanes can be turned on by a flick of a switch.
- ➔ Airplanes don't get mad if you do a "touch and go"
- ➔ Airplanes don't object to a preflight inspection.
- ➔ Airplanes come with manuals to explain their operation.
- ➔ Airplanes have strict weight and balance limitations.
- ➔ Airplanes can be flown any time of the month.
- ➔ Airplanes don't come with in-laws.
- ➔ Airplanes don't care about how many other airplanes you've flown before.
- ➔ Airplanes and pilots both arrive at the same time.
- ➔ Airplanes don't mind if you look at other airplanes.
- ➔ Airplanes don't mind if you buy airplane magazines.
- ➔ Airplanes expect to be tied down.
- ➔ Airplanes don't comment on your piloting skills.

However, like a woman, when an airplane goes quiet, it can be a BAD thing.....

**Chapter 135 Board Meeting
March 24, 2003**

Board Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Roger Bocox. He went around the room and had each board member give an update. The following are highlights of the reports:

- * Jack sold his Ercoupe!
- * Richard Milburn made a suggestion, based on information he received from someone attending our meetings, and then not returning. He suggested we have some sort of “building techniques” included in each meeting. Could be as little as 15 minutes, or as long as the meeting. This to better educate those that are building aircraft, and come to the meetings to see what they can further learn about it. Board open to idea.
- * Rob reported that the P-51 is most likely to be at the B-17 air show. He will have a final answer by next board meeting.
- * Brant reports he still has calendars. He'll sell at \$8.00 now, as we're almost in April.
- * Mark said there can't be any “Hartman Project work” on the first Saturday in April. Rescheduled for April 12. That means work on project would be April 12 & 19th at Mark's. (Directions on page 5)

OLD BUSINESS:

- * John Nelson gave Board an update on the B-17. Said there are 9 rides scheduled so far. He had posters made up and board discussed where to place them. Board members each took several to place with the various FBO's in area. Next board meeting there will be a sign up sheet for working the event. We should have 3-4 people at all times between 2-6 pm.
- * Scales: Bill had not further information.
- * Hartman Project: Roger gave an update. The right wing panel done, and working on the left wing panel. Reported we received the 6 1/2 yards of the material that was originally used by Art Hartman on his plane, and discussed how to use that material. Board decided that the May meeting will be held at Mark's to let chapter members work on the project, as well as view it. There will also be a potluck following the meeting. Work starts at 2pm. Meeting starts 4pm. Potluck directly after meeting. Chapter to furnish soda and meat to cook. Each to bring a dish to pass.
- * Roger announced we need each member to be responsible for program for one chapter meeting this year. The following schedule was decided:

April	Roger	September	Mike Abrahams
May	Meeting at Mark's on Hartman	October	Jack Arthur
June	Rob Miller	November	Rob Miller (could change)
July	Richard Milburn	December	Chapter Christmas Party
Aug	Oshkosh/Chapter Picnic		

Jack reported that Knoxville wants us to participate in a Fly-In during September this year. Board agreed. He also reminded board that June 2004, Knoxville is hosting National Ercoupe Convention. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.



Air Force Training Squadron flying in a never-done-before “USA” formation over the control tower “Taj Mahal” of Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. Pray for the men and women serving our country and going into danger, that we might keep our Freedom.

What's Going On

April 2-7, 2003—Sun n' Fun - Lakeland, Florida

April 12, 2003 — EAA Chapter 135 meeting at Ankeny Airport, Exec I, upstairs. 7 pm

April 12 & 19th, 2003—Hartman Work Party Mark Kokstis (See map below)

May 3, 2003 — Pella, Iowa Flight Breakfast. 7am-10am. Pilots in command eat free; free shuttle available.

May 4, 2003 — Flight Breakfast 7am-12:30 pm. Charles City Airport, Charles City, IA

May 4, 2003 — Red Oak, Iowa Annual Flight Breakfast and Fly-In. 7am-Noon. 712-623-6523

May 5-8, 2003 — B-17 in Ankeny, IA. Arrives May 5, approx. 2:00 pm. May 6, Open House, Media, Rides. May 7, rides. May 8, departs for Minneapolis, MN John Nelson to chair the B-17 event.

May 11, 2002—Fly-In, Osceola, IA. 7am-11am.

May 10-11, 2003 — 3rd Annual Wings Over Topeka Air show. Forbes Field. Featuring the US Navy Blue Angels. FMI contact MSgt Kevin Drewelow 785-861-4535 or Kevin.Drewelow@kstopang.af.mil.

May 18, 2003 — Flight Breakfast, 7am-12:00 Noon. Sponsored by Cherokee Flying Club. Cherokee Muni. Airport, Cherokee, IA. Info: 712-225-2810

June 6-8, 2003—Modelaires fair at Water Works Park. Fly YE all day long, each day.

June 15-17, 2003 — Aerospace Camp in Boone. Fly YE 5-8pm each day.

June 14, 2003—International Young Eagles Day.

June 15-18, 2003 — Youth Aerospace Educational Camp. Iowa 4-H Camp. Madrid, IA Info: 515-964-1398.

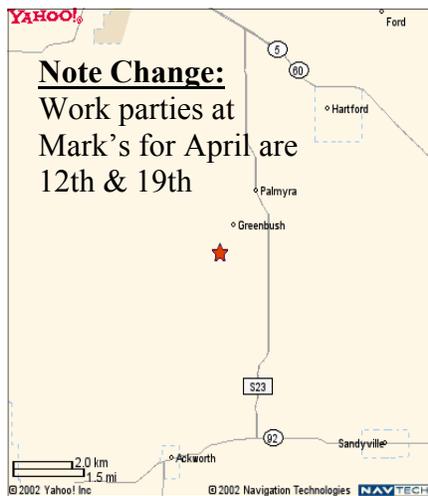
July 5-6, 2003—Fly Iowa, Eastern Iowa Airport. Questions pamh@cedar-rapids.org.

July 29-Aug 4, 2003—AIRVENTURE 2003

August 22-24—Replica Fighters Fly-In weekend, Osceola.

August 27-Sept 1, 2003 — Blakesburg, IA Reunion of Travel Aires with the AAA/APM International Fly-In at Antique Airfield.

Mark Kokstis
1818 Fulton
Carlisle.
Take 5 to Carlisle to S23. Turn south on S23, go through Pamyra and one mile out of town, turn right on Fulton, going approx 1 mile. Don't follow the left curve sign that you come to, go straight. House is 1st on left, past "curve" sign.



FLY-IOWA

Eastern Iowa Airport—July 5 & 6, 2003

Designed to promote aviation, this event moves around the state each month. If the chapter is interested in a booth, the cost is \$60. There are both indoor and outdoor booth space available. Need to reserve the space no later than June 1, 2003. Contact Pam Hinman at 319-286-5719 for information and for registration.

Brant says we still have a few calendars left.

Anyone who has not gotten one, they're only \$8, and the pictures are well worth it. Isn't that what we really buy those things for? Hurry, before they're all gone.



MAY MEETING

The May meeting will be a little different. It will be at Mark Kokstis and we'll have a "Hartman Project Meeting". Work on the project is from 2-4, and meeting starts at 4-6. Followed by a pot luck supper. Chapter to supply meat and drinks. Members each bring dish to pass. Come out and participate in this project, and lend your ideas and talents to the process.



Chapter 135 is hosting the B-17 on May 6-8, 2003 at Ankeny Airport. Call Tour Coordinator Lynn Curtis at 920-426-4877 to schedule a ride of a LIFETIME! Chapter members contact Brant Hollensbe (e-mail: bhollensbe@mchsi.com, or phone: 221-0970) to volunteer to help at event.

**THIS IS A CHANCE OF A LIFETIME
TO SEE & RIDE IN A FULLY RE-
STORED B-17**

PROP WASH

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The Leader In Recreational Aviation



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