



# Experimental Aircraft Association

## Chapter 135

### News



Number Four

April 2012

## Presidents Position

by Dave Kalwishky

April 2012 marks the 50th Anniversary that Chapter 135 has been in existence. We have a special treat for our meeting, Jeff Skiles will be coming to give a program on grass roots aviation. I have not seen it but I'm sure it will be a good one. He plans to fly his Waco down from Wisconsin. We will have cake and ice cream, please plan to attend, I want Jeff to see what a great group of members that we have.

I remember when I joined the chapter years ago, Bill Gast was the president. Roger Bocox was the next president for six years and I've been in the position for seven years now. If you have a story or historical information about the chapter that you would share with me that would be wonderful, I'd like to update the website with it.

The Officers and Board have decided to honor John Nelson's memory with a memorial brick at the Greenfield Aviation Museum, the brick will be 4 x 8 and permanently displayed in memory of John. I know that many people knew John and may want to contribute to the cost of the brick so

**Board Meetings are every  
4th Monday  
at 6:00 p.m. at Exec 1  
Aviation  
They are open to all  
members**

## NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

will be held

**Saturday - April 14, 2012**

**at Noon**

**50th Anniversary of Chapter 135**

**Program: Jeff Skiles will speak.**

*Jeff plans to fly his WACO to Ankeny*

*(From national EAA in Oshkosh)*

**There will be cake and ice cream**

**NOTICE:**

**PLEASE PAY YOUR 2011-2012 DUES**

starting in May we will start a silent auction that will run for several months to give everyone a chance to participate.

If you have an aviation book (or other aviation related item) you would like

to donate the auction please bring it to the April meeting. If you can't make the April meeting please contact Ralph Briggs and let him know that you have an item to donate and he will make arrangements to get it from you.

## UP COMING PROGRAMS:

May meeting: Cookout at Dave Kalwishky's new hanger at Northfield/Morningstar Field Dave will give a presentation on using the iPad for aviation

June meeting (to be determined)

July meeting Fly or Drive to Roger and Janet Stuarts private field (Farrar Field) north of Bondurant all who fly in receive sweet corn if it's ready. Picnic Lunch.

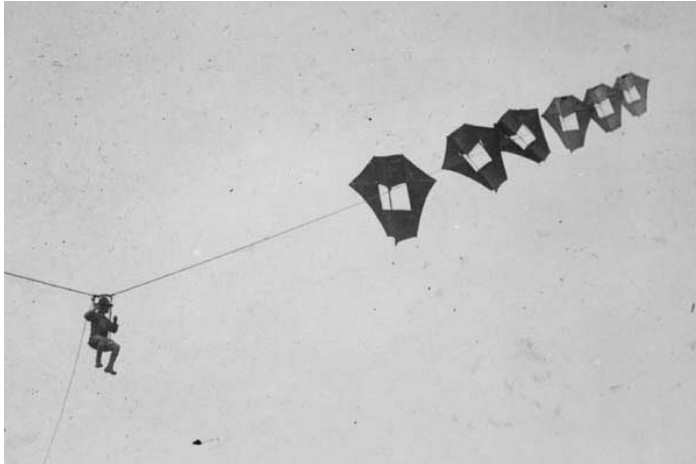
# Gonzo Death Traps From the Early Days of Aviation: Man-Lifting Kites

By Brian Resnick

Feb 29 2012, 8:39 AM ET Comment

From The Atlantic website

Before airplanes were perfected for reconnaissance, WWI-era armies used man-carrying kites as their eyes in the sky.



National Archives

It's 1918, and wartime aviation is still in its infancy. The airplane is not even two decades old, and dirigibles and hot air balloons are all too easy targets for advancing artillery units. For a brief time on the battlefields of WWI, kites -- the oldest method of aviation -- fill a technological hole in battlefield reconnaissance.

Compared to the other available modes of aviation, man-lifting kites were lightweight, portable, and quick to the air. Once aloft, the "pilot" could survey the battlefield and signal enemy positions down to the ground. They could be assembled and disassembled quickly, and could be flown at various altitudes.

The above image depicts an army test flight of a kite system designed by Samuel F. Perkins, a Boston based kite maker and promoter. But even at this time, Perkins was playing catch up with Europe's kite technology. "The American effort was really sporadic," Scott Skinner, founder of the Drachen Foundation, a non-profit dedicated to kite history and education, tells me. "All of the European armies experimented with these systems prior to World War I, and frankly they were a lot more serious about it and a lot more successful at it than the Americans were." The Americans would never use the kites on the battlefield, but the Germans and French had them on the fronts.

## HOW DID IT WORK?

In the top right corner of the image you can see a lead kite in the distance (I

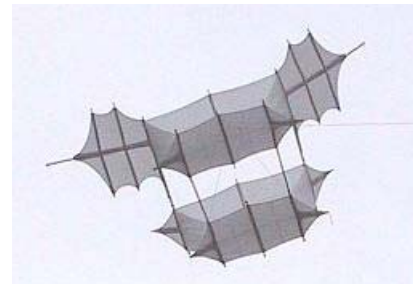
mistook it for photographic damage before Skinner pointed it out to me.) Once the kite team lifted the lead into the air and tested wind conditions, the stringer kites were flown one by one until there was enough lift to raise the "pilot" from the ground.

The pilot's safety mechanism was his team on the ground. The crew operated a winch, reeling him closer or letting him fly further away depending on conditions. If the pilot was too heavy or carrying equipment, more kites could be added to the string to increase power. "But the bigger issue is always stability," Skinner says. "It's easy to make them fly; it's not always easy to keep them stable in all wind conditions. There was a real element of danger." If the kite line became too vertical, it could careen out of control.

These dangerous shortcomings were realized by Perkins himself, when, during a 1912 test flight at 200 feet, he lost control of the kite. An article in a edition of *Electrician and Mechanic* from that year recounts how he survived, explaining "the many kites by which he was suspended... parachuted and prevented him from dashing to death on the earth."

But there were other -- perhaps more stable -- man-lifting kite designs abroad.

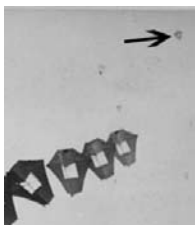
Samuel Franklin Cody was an American expatriate in Britain who, after a successful career in the theater business, became interested in aviation. He was the first man in Great Britain to pilot a motorized plane, and he also invented this winged box-kite system (resembles a prototype batplane, no?), known as Cody kite system,



This system could be flown up to 3,000 feet in the air. Compared to the Perkins system, it was more stable because it only relied on one rigging, rather than a string of kites.

But the practical uses on the battlefield were always limited. The kite operator was still something of a target, although the light waving of the kites would provide a bit of a challenge for gunmen. After the war, the airplane rendered man-lifting kites obsolete, at least for military purposes. Done with lifting people, they were used for aerial photography. Traces of the man-carrying kite concept can be seen in modern paragliders pulled by boats, and, of course, in experiments by weekend hobbyists.

The early days of aviation inspired all sorts of gonzo experiments in aviation. Looking back, steam engine-powered helicopters, bat-wing glider suits and, even a few decades later, merry-go-round plane launchers, seem like dead-ends of engineering. But perhaps such experimentation should be expected -- people are, after all, inclined to dream of ways to lift us very earth-bound humans into the sky.



## Jordan Burkland and his robotics team

In January Jordan Burkland brought his robotics team to our chapter meeting to demonstrate their project and talk about their upcoming competitions. Jordan reports: “Things went extremely well at the FTC Iowa championships. We qualified for the semifinals and finals, but then lost in our last 2 matches. However, we were nominated for the Inspire Award, along with numerous others. The Inspire Award is given to the team that best represents the values that the FIRST program is trying to instill into students. Winners of this award ALSO get to move on to the World Championships to compete with 127 other teams out of 2,000 from across the world.”

**So they are still in the game!**

### General Aviation



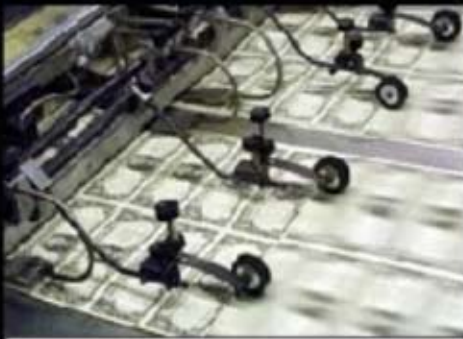
What my friends think I do.



What my spouse thinks I do.



What the TSA thinks I do.



What my mechanic thinks I do.



What I think I do.



What I really do.

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
EAA CHAPTER 135  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM**

Board members present: Dave K, Ralph B, Matt S, Marc B, John K, Alan H, Craig M, Jim Z, Mike G.

Old Minutes: Motion to approve by Mike G, seconded by Alan H – All Yays.

Treasurers Report: Motion to approve by Matt S, seconded by Mike G – All Yays

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Chapter Birthday party. Someone asked if we could get a duplicate of the charter for the chapter. Dave was going to look into this.

Dave will e-mail Jeff Skiles to see if there is a meeting this year that he could attend if he can't attend the April meeting.

2. Ralph was going to get with Doug Rozendaal to reschedule his presentation for our Chapter on the P51 Red Tail that he flies.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. We discussed purchasing a memorial brick ar Oshkosh in John Nelson's honor. Dave suggested we could look at the Blakesburg museum while someone else suggested Greenfield. Mike Graber is going to see what the cost is to get a memorial brick at Greenfield.

2. Discussion on the Christmas dinner, the Machine Shed will not reserve the large room on Friday or Saturday nights. Ralph is going to check with them to see if we could reserve the room on Sunday December 2<sup>nd</sup> or Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Respectfully submitted by Dave Kalwishky**



## Shirts

We have a selection of grey polo shirts and grey T-shirts embroidered with the stylish Chapter 135 logo. Polo shirts are \$20, T-shirts \$15 (blonde co-pilot not included.) Come to a monthly meeting at the chapter garage at the Ankeny airport to buy a shirt from the display rack.

## Scales Rental Info

All scale rentals require check for \$200.deposit (Will be returned, uncashed, upon timely scale return).

Three day rentals. May be extended for thee additional days at no charge, if there are no other conflicting requests for their use, with notification by phone. Otherwise late fee of \$100 per day applies.

All checks to be made out to "J.M. Abrahams / scale rental".

Chapter 135 members (must be member 3 months prior to rental date.) ..\$25.00 for 3 days

National EAA member but not Chapter 135 member .....\$75.00 for 3 days

A&P or FBO rate .....\$125.00 for 3 days

Copy of rental agreement available by fax or email by calling Mike Abrahams at 515-287-3840 or email to ppcmike@hotmail.com

Scales are kept at Phil Patterson, Corp. / 4214 Fleur Dr., Suite 11 / Des Moines, IA 50321 (two blocks north of N.E. corner of the Des Moines Int'l Airport.

## Membership Dues

Name \_\_\_\_\_

EAA No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$20.00 per year

Dues are due July 1 and run through June 30.

(After January 1st you may pay \$30.00 for 1½ years)

**LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE \$200.00**

You must be a member of the National EAA.

You may mail your dues to our treasurer:

Alan Hummel  
17157 HWY 92  
Indianola, IA 51025



# Iowa Department of Transportation Office of Aviation Calendar

## April 2012

Saturday, April 14

### Ames Municipal Airport

Iowa State Flying Cyclones  
Annual Fly-in / Drive-in Breakfast  
7:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Pilots in command free  
515 232-4310 (Hap's Air Service)  
**E-mail:** [flying@iastate.edu](mailto:flying@iastate.edu)  
**Website:** [www.flying.stuorg.iastate.edu](http://www.flying.stuorg.iastate.edu)

Saturday, April 14

### Council Bluffs Municipal Airport

Fly-in Breakfast  
8:00 a.m. – Noon  
308-340-2190 (Tad)  
712-323-2173 (Council Bluffs Airport)

Sunday, April 15

### Dubuque Regional Airport

Fly-in / Drive-in Breakfast  
Hosted by the University of Dubuque Flight Team  
7:00 a.m. to noon  
563-321-8293 (Colin Waldorf)  
**E-mail:** [CWaldorf@dbq.edu](mailto:CWaldorf@dbq.edu)

Saturday, April 21

### Fort Dodge Regional Airport

Annual Chili Fly-in/Drive-in  
Gold Hangar (with large self fueling sign)  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
515-573-3881 ext 3 (Rhonda Chambers)  
**E-mail:** [fdairport@fortdodgeiowa.org](mailto:fdairport@fortdodgeiowa.org)  
**Website:** [www.FortDodgeIowa.org](http://www.FortDodgeIowa.org)

Wednesday, April 25 -  
Thursday, April 26

### Iowa Aviation Conference

Sheraton West Des Moines Hotel  
West Des Moines  
**For more information, visit**  
[www.iowaairports.org/conference/index.htm](http://www.iowaairports.org/conference/index.htm)

**Sponsors, exhibitors and registration**  
Call: Sue Heath at 515-727-0667  
[sheath@associationinsight.com](mailto:sheath@associationinsight.com)

**Speakers or programming**  
Call Tim McClung at 515-239-1689  
[tim.mcclung@dot.iowa.gov](mailto:tim.mcclung@dot.iowa.gov)

Saturday, April 28

### Webster City Municipal Airport

Fly-in breakfast  
7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
515-832-3723 (Sue Storm)  
**Website:** [www.stormflyingservice.com/](http://www.stormflyingservice.com/)

## May 2012

Sunday, May 6

### Red Oak Municipal Airport

Flight Breakfast  
7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
712-623-6523 (Gail Ernst)  
**E-mail:** [nrdk@live.com](mailto:nrdk@live.com)

Sunday, May 6

### Sioux Gateway Airport

Mid American Aviation and Transportation Museum  
Annual Fly-In and Car Show  
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Pilots in command eat pancakes free  
712-490-0324 (Rick Alter)  
**E-mail:** [ralter@cableone.net](mailto:ralter@cableone.net)  
**Website:** [www.midamericaairmuseum.org](http://www.midamericaairmuseum.org)

## June 2012

Saturday, June 2

### Council Bluffs Municipal Airport

8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Pilots in command free  
402-981-4633 (Jeff Hutcheson)  
**E-mail:** [jeffhutcheson3@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhutcheson3@gmail.com)

Sunday, June 3

### Washington Municipal Airport

Fly-in Breakfast  
7:00 to 11:00 a.m.  
Pilot in command free  
9:00 - Noon Young Eagle rides  
319-461-7022 (Tim Swift)  
**E-mail:** [napa711@hotmail.com](mailto:napa711@hotmail.com)

Sunday, June 3

### Audubon Municipal Airport

Flight Breakfast  
6:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  
Fly-ins eat free  
712-563-3780 (Barbara Smith)  
**E-mail:** [audchmbr@iowatelecom.net](mailto:audchmbr@iowatelecom.net)

Sunday, June 10

### Spencer Municipal Airport

Fly-in / Drive-in Pancake Breakfast  
In conjunction with the City Flagfest Celebration  
7:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Pilot in command + 1 passenger eat free  
712-262-1000 (Gayle Brandt)  
**E-mail:** [spencerairport@smunet.net](mailto:spencerairport@smunet.net)

Saturday, June 16

### Chariton Municipal Airport

Dave McGlothen 3rd Annual Fly-in/drive-in Breakfast  
7:00 a.m. - Noon  
641-774-4059 (Evelyn Hull)  
**E-mail:** [charitonchamber@iowatelecom.net](mailto:charitonchamber@iowatelecom.net)  
**Website:** [www.charitonchamber.com](http://www.charitonchamber.com)

# Iowa Department of Transportation Office of Aviation Calendar Continued

Sunday, June 17

## Harlan Municipal Airport

67th Annual Flight Breakfast  
7 a.m. – 11 a.m.  
Fly-ins eat free  
712.744.3366 (Randy Pash)  
E-mail: [Randy.pash@gmail.com](mailto:Randy.pash@gmail.com)

Sunday, June 17

## Maquoketa Municipal Airport

Rotary Fly-In Breakfast  
7 a.m. – Noon.  
Fly-in pilots eat free  
563-652-6517 (Brian Wagner)  
E-mail: [maqcity@maquoketaia.com](mailto:maqcity@maquoketaia.com)

Sunday, June 24

## Pender , NE

Annual Fly-In Breakfast  
8:00 a.m. - Noon  
Pilots in command eat free  
402-380-9882 (Paul Peters)  
E-mail: [ppeters@skyww.net](mailto:ppeters@skyww.net)

## July 2012

Sunday, July 1

## Belle Plaine Municipal Airport

Fly-in / Drive-in Breakfast  
In conjunction with the Belle Plaine Sesquicentennial Celebration  
7:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Pilots in command eat free  
319-350-7136 (Bruce Gapstur)  
E-mail: [bruce.gapstur@gmail.com](mailto:bruce.gapstur@gmail.com)

Tuesday, July 17-  
Wednesday, July 18

## AAAE Advanced Airport Safety and Operational Specialist School

The Eastern Iowa Airport  
Cedar Rapids  
319-731-5716 (Sara Mau)  
E-mail: [S.Mau@crairport.org](mailto:S.Mau@crairport.org)

Monday, July 23 – Sunday,  
July 29

## EAA Airventure

Oshkosh, WI  
920-426-4800  
E-mail: [communications@eaa.org](mailto:communications@eaa.org)  
Website: [www.airventure.org](http://www.airventure.org)

Wednesday, July 25 –  
Friday, July 27

## Clinton Municipal Airport

International Cessna 150-152 Fly-in  
301-275-2476 (Mark Buchner)  
Website: [www.cessna150-152flyin.org](http://www.cessna150-152flyin.org)

## August 2012

Sunday, Aug. 5

## Cresco Municipal Airport

Cresco Chamber Flight Breakfast  
7:30 a.m. – Noon  
Pilots in command eat free  
563-547-3434(Anna or Jason)

E-mail: [anna.schmauss@cedausa.com](mailto:anna.schmauss@cedausa.com)

Web site: [www.crescochamber.com](http://www.crescochamber.com)

Sunday, Aug. 26

## Iowa City Municipal Airport

34th Annual Sertoma Fly-In Breakfast  
7 a.m. - 12:30 p.m  
319-338-9222 (Jim McCarragher)  
E-mail: [jamesm@mearndonlaw.com](mailto:jamesm@mearndonlaw.com)

## September 2012

Saturday, September 1

## Council Bluffs Municipal Airport

Great Plains Wing CAF 3rd Annual Labor Day Flight Breakfast  
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m  
Pilots in command free  
402-981-4633 (Jeff Hutcheson)  
E-mail: [jeffhutcheson3@gmail.com](mailto:jeffhutcheson3@gmail.com)

Saturday, September 1 –  
Sunday, September 2

## Quad City Air Show

Davenport Municipal Airport  
563-285-7469  
E-mail: [info@quadcityairshow.com](mailto:info@quadcityairshow.com)  
Website: [www.quadcityairshow.com](http://www.quadcityairshow.com)

Saturday, September 15

## FLY IOWA 2012

Atlantic Municipal Airport  
Website: [www.flyiowa.org](http://www.flyiowa.org)

Friday, Sept. 21 - Saturday,  
Sept. 22

## Southeast Iowa Regional Airport

Southeast Iowa Airshow  
6:30pm to 9:00pm Night Show on Friday Evening  
11:30am to 3:30pm Saturday Traditional Day Show  
319-754-1414 (opt 2) (Bob Christensen)  
E-mail: [seiowaairshow@gmail.com](mailto:seiowaairshow@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.seiowaairshow.com](http://www.seiowaairshow.com)

## October 2012

Thursday, Oct. 11 -  
Saturday, Oct. 13

## Keokuk Municipal Airport

L-Bird Fly-In and Convention  
319-524-6203 (Donna Farrell)  
E-mail: [donna@lindneraviation.com](mailto:donna@lindneraviation.com)  
Website: [www.lindneraviation.com](http://www.lindneraviation.com)



## EAA Chapter 135

Marc Broer  
6292 N.E. 14th Street  
Des Moines, IA 50313  
marc@countylineprinting.com

## 2012 Chapter 135 Officers and Board Members

### Officers:

President:..... Dave Kalwishky ..... 515-266-4001 .....dave@kalwishky.com  
Vice President: ..... Ralph Briggs ..... 515-554-8187 .....rbriggs55@gmail.com  
Treasurer: ..... Alan Hummel ..... 515-961-7304 ..... hummel7304@gmail.com  
Secretary ..... Vacant  
Newsletter Editor: ..... Marc Broer ..... 515-288-4581 .....marc@countylineprinting.com  
Young Eagles Coordinator: .... Alan Core ..... 515-961-4524 .....indypurr@juno.com

### Board Members:

Mike Graber .....515-993-3421 .....mgrab914@msn.com  
John Kennelley .....515-285-2259  
Craig Martin .....515-250-3124 ..... cmartindsm@gmail.com  
Richard Milburn .....515-834-2954 ..... rchrdmilburn@aol.com  
Matt Smith .....515-418-1860 ..... mattst18@mchsi.com  
Jim Zuehls ..... jjzuehls@gmail.com