

# Winds Aloft



EAA CHAPTER 790

P.O. BOX 1206 BARRINGTON, IL 60011

WWW.EAA790.ORG

## How Lucky Am I?

by Nancy Blazyk

There I was. I was minding my own business with my family at the seaplane base at Airventure. If anyone of you has not seen the seaplane base near Oshkosh, you really should. It is quite a different dimension to the whole Airventure experience. It is very easy to find. The base is tucked into a meadow that opens to a small bay on Lake Winnebago. Flowers that are planted at the foot of the old trees add to the pastoral setting. The atmosphere is very different from the hubbub of "Wittman Central". Larry, my husband, was getting a workout with his new camera with all that was going on.



"Hey Nancy!" I turned around in wonder. Who knows me here other than the friends we hooked up with for lunch? I saw Lee Hilbert as I swung around. I soon found out Lee was only at the base for a few hours and was planning to give our friend, Don Alesi a little demo ride in his 120 on floats.

Lee asked me if I would like a ride in the 120. All I could do was smile. I think my face was starting to hurt from the grin.



"Me?" I asked. After all, I was standing next to a bevy of appreciating fans that would have loved to get a ride in the airplane. "What the heck", I thought. "Live life to its fullest, because you never know what is around the next bend." I truly believe that the people I have as friends feel the same way. So, here I am being given the opportunity to experience something unique with a fellow aviator that "gets it". I am very fortunate.

The cockpit is tight, I noticed, as I unfolded my

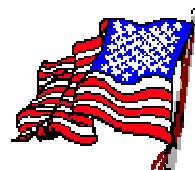
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## President's Letter

I wish to take this moment to thank Dana for all of his past service to 790. Dana was President for four years, Vice President prior to that, Chairman of Young Eagles and Co-Chairman of Kid Venture at Oshkosh. At times we members forget what service others provide to our Chapter. Dana, thank you for all of your service and I hope you continue to stay involved where time permits. Also John Vlasic has stepped down as Chairman of the Program Committee (committee of one). John has held this post for over nine years. How you kept coming up with great speakers is amazing. Thanks John. Jay and Abbie have moved out to Poplar Grove Airport and Abbie has relinquished chairing the Scholarship Committee. Thanks Abbie for all of your

work and drive starting such a worthwhile venture. (Jay says he is now getting much more flying time in since he is closer to his plane). Anyone who may be interested in filling any of these roles please let me know.

Tom LeGates has volunteered to fill the role of Vice President. The board unanimously approved his election. Tom has always been the quiet guy behind the scene getting the chapter communications out, maintaining the member roster updates, co chairing the Monthly newsletter, printing/sorting/compiling and mailing the newsletter, flying/assisting with Young Eagles and numerous other Chapter activities which need to get done. Congratulations Tom!

Hooray, second place on the Chapter Newsletter!! Great Job, Mike and Tom! I understand you both got plaques this year. (No more arguing over who gets to keep the plaque).

At the monthly meetings, coffee/cookies will be readily available upon arriving. It was also suggested we start the meeting at 7:00 PM versus 7:30. Let me know what you think. Bring your anecdotes to the next meeting that is what you did/liked about your experience at Air Venture this year. A lot of people volunteered for an amazing diversity of jobs last week. Let's us hear what you did, liked and saw. (Bud was realllly enraptured by the F22 Raptor).

Elections are coming up. We will be taking nominees for all officers' positions at the August-October meetings and final voting will be done in November. So let's us know who you want to represent you at 790.

If you're interested, and I hope you are, in assisting with any events, let me or any of the officers know. It's fun to help out or start a new event/project. Many people sharing tasks make Chapter involvement enjoyable and fun.

Ideas! Let us hear what activities and events you want 790 to be involved in. This is an extremely diverse Chapter with lots of talent and experiences. "Show and Tell" and "Tell and Tell" is back. Anyone interested in talking about his or her projects or items close to their aviation heart let me know. I will be providing some details of one project I am interested in "I Wanna Be a Pilot". Will let you know my thoughts on this at a later date.

~Tom~

## August 1<sup>st</sup> EAA Chapter 790 Board Meeting Minutes

*The meeting was called to order by Tom Solar at Pilot Pete's Restaurant. Lon Danek, Tom Solar, Nancy Blazyk, Herb Gottelt, Jeff Wilson, Tom LeGates, Glenn Brisson, and Mike Perkins were present.*

1. The 790 newsletter took 2<sup>nd</sup> place at Airventure last week. Thanks to all of the hard work by our editors Tom LeGates and Mike Perkins! Chapter 1414 out of Poplar Grove took 1<sup>st</sup> place, also. Congratulations!
2. Tom LeGates made a motion to elect Tom Solar as President of the chapter. The motion passes.
3. Mike Perkins made a motion to elect Tom LeGates as Vice President. The motion passes.
4. We will need to fill a few roles at the next meeting:  
Scholarship Chairman  
Video Library Chairman  
Program Chairman
5. We will be setting up a nominating committee at the August meeting for board positions for the next 2 years.
6. There was a reminder that the October meeting will

be the Annual Chapter Auction at the new workshop in Crystal Lake. The new workshop is located at the northeast corner of route 14 and 31 next to the Citgo gas station. Proceeds will go to the Chapter.

7. The next Young Eagle rally will be on August 19<sup>th</sup> at Lake in the Hills airport.
8. The next general meeting will be August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Barrington library.
9. Tom Solar asked the board to confer what we personally use EAA and chapter 790 for. Comments ranged from a great diversity of experienced people to socialize with to the technical expertise that we can use as an educational forum. This then became a discussion about what our objectives should be for the future. Most agreed that we should apply more effort to focus on building youth involvement. The general meeting will focus on a clearer agenda, also.

*The meeting was adjourned at 9:32pm.*

Submitted:  
Nancy Blazyk, Secretary



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### *(How Lucky Am I? continued from page 1)*

legs after climbing into the right seat. Lee explained that the wind and water was a little rough on this particular afternoon, although I felt very comfortable in his capable hands. "No sweat. I'm just going to experience this and have fun!" I told him. Steering on the water was just as it is on land except with much exaggeration. There is some lag to the foot pedal steering similar to a boat, too.

As we taxied out, he told me to lift the water rudder when we were preparing to take off. The water rudder had a small handle that could be accessed from the right side of the cabin next to the door. "This was a relatively small bird for flying off the water, so the ideal conditions were at 7 or 8am when the weather is like glass", Lee explained. It seemed to take a little longer to get the desired airspeed for lift, but once airborne the feeling was wonderful. We climbed out over the pier and trees, and then banked out over the water.

The air was a bit muggy, and only a little breezy. There was an aerobatic performer in the distance to the north. I could see he was diving from above us to air show center over at Wittman field. "What a great vantage point!" I thought. Lee started to descend and lose some airspeed for an approach over the water. Gradually feeling for the surface we skated and bumped along, only briefly. He decided to ease in the power for a go-around. "That was a little rough", he informed me. Once more we were airborne and I got another chance to check out the sights. I had noticed a Seabee also in the pattern, too. The next pass was to his standards. We landed after bumping on the small waves that rippled on the surface. When the airplane slowed we utilized the water rudder to find our way back to the pier and terra firma.

Each year seems to hold a new adventure up at "Pilot Mecca", Airventure. This year was no exception, thanks to my Lee Hilbert. *(Photos: Nancy Blazyk)*



## Titre Family Visits Oshkosh

by Don Jenerick & Tom LeGates

On Sunday, the 23rd of July, Mike Titre and members of his family made a visit to Oshkosh. They arrived around 9:30 at the KidVenture tent, where they were warmly greeted by the folks helping to set up KidVenture for 2006.

Judy Rice was also there to see Mike. She was the EAA liaison to KidVenture during its' first few years and she and Mike were instrumental in getting it going. They were delighted to see each other! Tom Poberezny arrived at the



Adam Smith chats with Mike

Don picks up the tale with the tour that they gave to Mike and his family --

“Most of them (Mike’s family members) had never been to the convention. They knew that Mike had gone to Oshkosh many times to visit with his friends, and there were airplanes and some walking around.



Mike and Tom Poberezny



Mike Titre and Tom Poberezny with members of Mike's family

KidVenture tent promptly at 10 where there was a short ceremony, with kind words from Tom, and greetings from Adam Smith as well. Then

They were bowled over. As we know the convention is !! vast !! The folks at Headquarters placed at our disposal three golf carts (two 6 pass. & one 4 pass.). Tom Poberezny met us at the KidVenture tent and gave Mike and family a wonderful greeting and welcome. Then Dan Majka, Bob Kupon, and myself loaded Mike and family onto the carts and started the Grand Tour of the convention grounds from the Ul-

tralights to Compass Hill, the Chapel, the Air Academy, Memorial Wall, and the Visitor Center. There we were met by Paul Poberezny. He welcomed Mike's family and told many stories of good times of the past. He made a very moving presentation. I don't think there was dry eye in the room.



Mike with Judy Rice

That is a brief telling of the events of Mike's Family Day” (Photos: Tom LeGates)



## Blown in From the Winds Aloft

We have adopted a **new meeting format** for our general meetings, beginning this month. Socializing will begin at **6:30 PM** with coffee, cookies, and other refreshments. This month's meeting will be held at the **Barrington Public Library**, with meeting room doors open at 6:30, Tuesday, August 22. At 7:30, the meeting itself will begin. Normally the business meeting will be first, followed by new-member and visitor introduction. After that, there will be an opportunity for members to update our chapter on the progress of their aircraft projects, new ratings, recent flying trips, visits to air museums, and the many upcoming Young Eagles events. We will also have regular **briefings** on fly-in and drive-in events, which we plan to have many more of in the near future. The usual break between the business meeting and program is being replaced by the social event beginning at 6:30. The **dynamic** of our chapter is terrific and we think this new format will accentuate it.

The program for this month is an update on **flying and building activities** from our membership at large (that means you, too!). Mike Perkins will give a brief program on **Cow Dusting** to get things started plus some recent repairs on his Kitfox along with some show-and-tell of perfect-looking bad parts. We'll take it from there with **updates from you**. So think about what you've been doing since you last gave us an update on your project or your flying skills. Remember we're an easy group to talk to, and all interested in what you're doing.

Also, this month we'll have some time for **show-and-tell**, so bring along some interesting airplane stuff from your hanger or garage and tell us about it. To take advantage of our new socializing time, plan on being there between 6:30 and 7:30!!

At our **last meeting**, held at the **Elgin Workshop**, members gathered for our annual Picnic-In-the-Shop. Chapter (and member) supplied burgers and brats were served up from the trusty, but ailing grill (held together with wire from the shop!). It was the last meeting to be held in Elgin as the workshop will be closing in September. The latest information regarding Carts volunteering and Chapter camping space was shared..

The next **Chapter Board meeting** will be held at Pilot Pete's Restaurant at the Schaumburg airport. The meeting will be on Tuesday, September 5. The meeting will begin at 7:30 in the downstairs lounge, but often attendees meet in the restaurant at 6:00 for dinner. All members are welcome to attend.

**Winds Aloft** has again won an EAA National Newsletter Award. As it did last year, your newsletter won second place. Newsletter editor Mike Perkins accepted the award on behalf of the Chapter and co-editor Tom LeGates during the Chapter Awards ceremony at AirVenture on Saturday, July 29. Also to be congratulated is Alex Von Bosse of Poplar Grove's Chapter 1414 who won 1<sup>st</sup> place.



*Chapter President Tom Solar congratulates editor Mike Perkins. (Photo: Tom Solar)*

**Short Final: Ken and Polly's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Day at the Hangar!!** Poplar Grove Airport, Sunday, August 20, 2006. Lunch at 2 PM, Italian Sausage, sweet corn, soft drinks. Bring a side dish if you wish, bring your kids, your friends, a blanket for the grass, and something to sit on. Located in the new hangars at Poplar Grove Airport. Party in the hangar in case of rain. Ken Kresmery 847-742-0000. Directions: Enter off Orth Road (museum entrance). Take the first left, look for Ryan Blvd. Kresmery's address is Ryan Blvd. MD 4 & 5. (To drive to Poplar Grove airport, take I-90 west to Genoa Rd, Genoa Road north to Route 76. Go just past the airport to Orth Road. Turn right on Orth.)

**Hundreds of** photos from AirVenture 2006 and our July meeting have been uploaded by **Raj Upadhyaya** into his photo gallery. At AirVenture, Raj snapped photos of Chapter 790 camping, EAA Forums, and many beautiful airplanes. Follow this link - <http://raj-up.smugmug.com/gallery/1743485> to view the photos. The photos included on pages 7 - 8 of this edition are from his collection. Thanks, Raj!



## Some AirVenture 2006 Favorites

(Photos: Raj Upadhyaya)



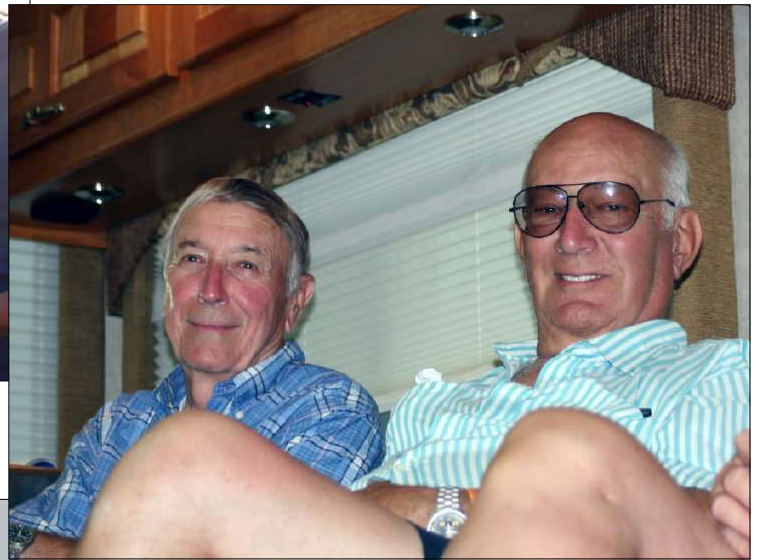
*Dick Rutan, Mike Melvill, and "Pop" George Rutan after a Forum presentation*



*WORLD'S BUSIEST says it all*



*The crew loads up at Ken's Wednesday night spaghetti feast*



*Hal Richter & Ken Kresmery take a break in "the bus"*



*Bringing the old and new together, an AirVenture tradition*



*Burt Rutan addresses "the future"*



## Calendar of Events



2006

August 19 (Sat) ..... Young Eagles Rally, Lake In The Hills Airport

August 20 (Sun) ..... Ken & Polly's Day At The Hangar, Poplar Grove

\*August 22 (Tue) ..... Chapter Meeting, Barrington Library

\*September 5 (Tue)..... Board Meeting, Schaumburg Airport

September 16 (Sat)..... Young Eagles Rally, Lake In The Hills Airport

October 14 (Sat)..... Young Eagles Rally, Lake In The Hills Airport

October 24 (Tue)..... Annual Auction Meeting, New Restoration Workshop, Crystal Lake

\* Event added this month

Contact Rob Skalany for information or suggestions regarding Young Eagle Rallies. **Phone: (815) 459-6027**  
**Email: bbbh2o@ameritech.net**

### FAA Wings Program



**Abbie Friddell, Master CFI, CFII is offering an EAA Chapter 790 special discount. 3 hours Wings Program Instruction for \$75.**

**Phone: (815) 547-9574**

**Email: abbienair@sbcglobal.net**

### Flight Reviews

BFR Special: Ole Sindberg is offering a Biennial Flight Review for any Chapter 790 member for \$50.00. Also available are flight instruction in single and multi-engine aircraft, helicopters, as well as high performance and complex airplane checkouts. Phone: (847) 639-5408.

Email: Oleeva@sbcglobal.net

## July Meeting Photos



*Ron Liebmann and Bryant Gruenwald finishing the T-craft*



*Lon Danek, Paula Pluth and Barb Wilson enjoy the shop "patio"*



*The beautifully restored instrument panel*



*Admiring the workmanship on the T-Craft's right wing*

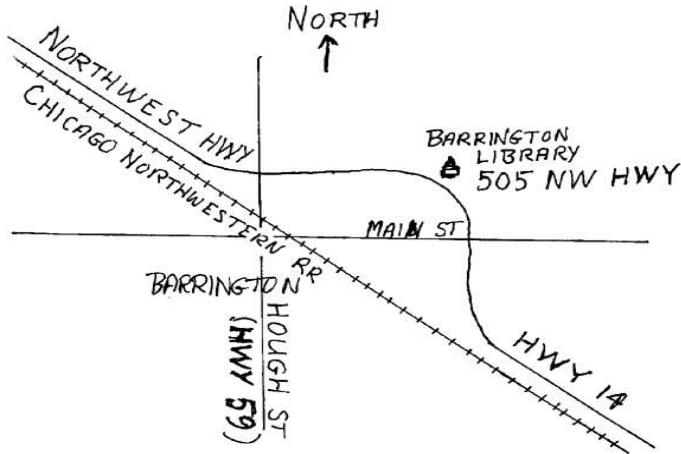
*(Photos: Raj Upadhyaya)*

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# DIRECTIONS, ETC

Regular Chapter meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday evening of each month (except July) at the Barrington Public Library. Meetings begin at 6:30 with a social hour. The Library is located on Highway 14 between Main St/Lake Cook Rd., and Highway 59 (Hough St) in Barrington, Illinois.

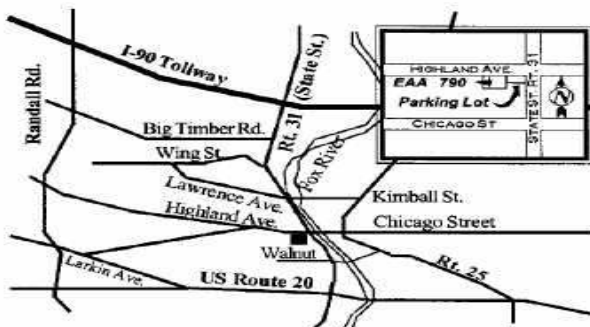


## Elgin Workshop

The T-Craft parts will begin going to the paint shop tomorrow (8/15). When the plane is painted it will go to Poplar Grove for completion. At that time we will rent a big truck and will need help loading it before the 1st of September when we must be out of the Elgin shop.

Call my house or cell to check if the shop will be manned on any particular day. Or better yet, call the shop directly at 847-608-0001. My home number is: 847-352-8282. Cell #: 847-997-0801. Ron Liebmann.

**219 W Highland Ave  
Elgin, IL 60123**



### Buy, Sell or Trade

*Classified ads may be submitted by any Chapter member free of charge. They will run for about 3 months unless canceled or renewed. Non-Chapter members and sponsors may purchase a business card size ad for \$100 per year. Ads for shorter periods are \$10 per month*

**For Sale:** RV-6 tail kit and wing kit with plans and instruction book. \$4400 invested, yours for only \$2000. **Contact Steve Flattum (815) 765-1849.**

**For Sale or Rent:** Portable paint booth exhaust system on wheels. Explosion-proof motor and lights, flexible ducting, great for hanger or garage. \$300 or rent for a small fee. **Contact Steve Flattum (815) 765-1849.**

**For Sale:** Aircraft sheet aluminum from small pieces to 12 ft long, thickness from .032 to .064, 50% off. **Contact Steve Flattum (815) 765-1849.**

**For Rent:** Poplar Grove, 50x50 shared, heated, well-lighted hangar, bifold electric door. For homebuilt, single, light twin or storage. **Call Lon Danek (847) 381-4286.**

**For Sale:** Bargain price for Sitka spruce wing or tail spar material, 7/8"x10"x18.' Have 4 available. Also can be used for stringers or other structural uses. **Contact Lon Danek @ 847 381-4286.**

**For sale:** Magellan Skystar Plus hand held GPS, complete with carrying case, aux antenna, aux power supply and mounting bracket. A good starter GPS at a very low cost. \$100. **Call Lon Danek 847 381-4286.**

**For sale:** Lancair project, pressurized option, horizontal stab completed, wings 70% completed, fowler flaps, speed brakes, wing tip extensions for high altitude, plus many other parts and extras. Superior workmanship throughout. **Contact Marv Jensen, (817) 573-9011 or email: [kmlancair4@aol.com](mailto:kmlancair4@aol.com).**

**For sale:** RV-4 empennage kit purchased in May '04 and untouched except for assembling the horizontal stabilizer spar and ribs. All of the skins are untouched and are still wrapped in blue protective covering. Price if purchased from Van's is \$1,200 plus freight. Asking \$600 FOB Cary, IL. A very nicely constructed jig is included if you pick it up in Cary. **Contact [Elaine Knoedler@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Elaine.Knoedler@sbcglobal.net)**

**For Sale:** 1 year old end T hangar with loft and full bath overlooking runways at Poplar Grove airport (NE of Rockford, IL). Museum, RV's, Stearmans and Yaks flying---\$80,000. **Call (847) 372-9374**

**For Sale:** Lowrance GPS Airmap 100. It includes yoke mounting bracket, external GPS antenna, cig lighter adapter and software cabling. Excellent condition. Updates can be obtained on line from Lowrance. Price \$100. **Contact Tom Solar (847) 468-9437.**

**For sale:** 1995 Subaru boxer, 4 cylinder, liquid cooled engine. Taken from car with 35K miles. Would need overhaul for airplane use. Engine located in Elgin at Ball St. and Ludeka Pl. Available for \$500 OBO. **Contact Mark Elliott @ 847 628-3922 days, 847 742-2857 evenings.**



## Pre-meeting Checklist

- ✓ **Name Tags**
- ✓ **Show-And-Tell Items**
- ✓ **Project Updates**
- ✓ **Article(s) For The Newsletter**
- ✓ **Ideas For Meeting Programs**

The Newsletter is always looking for interesting articles and pictures by our chapter members. If you have written anything or would like to write something or have pictures that you believe would be of interest to the chapter members, please submit what you have. The newsletter staff prefer that you e-mail your articles to [michael.perkins@rauland.com](mailto:michael.perkins@rauland.com) or [trlegates@comcast.net](mailto:trlegates@comcast.net). We prefer text written in Microsoft Word, however, you may submit the material any way that is easiest for YOU! We also accept hand-written copy, floppy disks (IBM format), Zip disks (IBM format), and CD's. Bring your article to the meeting or mail it to Mike Perkins at 17787 Sherwood Forest Rd, Havana, IL 62644.

### **NEXT CHAPTER MEETING**

The program for this month is an update on **flying and building activities** from our membership at large (that means you!). So think about what you've been doing since you last gave us an update on your project or your flying skills. We'll also have some time for **show-and-tell**, so bring along some interesting airplane stuff from your hanger or garage and tell us about it. Remember, our "social hour" begins at 6:30 and replaces the mid-meeting break, so come early and enjoy coffee and refreshments while you visit with other Chapter members. Hope to see you all there.



*The Leader In Recreational Aviation*



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