

CATFISH SQUADRON

EAA CHAPTER 797



Live Oak, Florida



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Chapter 797 Meeting

Saturday August, 26th

The monthly meeting will be held at the Suwannee County Airport at our EAA Chapter Building at approx. **10:30AM.** Pot Luck Brunch will be at 10:00AM. All of our members are asked to bring a dish to share.



The Ramp @ Keystone

EAA 797 Morning Fly-In

The LAST Saturday of the month
August 26, 2017
8:00-10:00 AM

From the Top

Ronda and I made it over to Keystone on 1 July. They had a good breakfast, except they ran out, and an interesting speaker. Gerald Drain, who had 01 Birddogs during VietNam. We saw a few members there, Dave Nickels (of course, he lives there) and we left before going to the museum (been there).

Dave Holmes

Thanks for the report, Dave. Keystone always has a good breakfast and interesting personalities all around. Gotta catch another ride there one of these days.

I'll take this opportunity to remind us all that we will not be meeting this month. Airventure has center stage and I would appreciate reports from the membership for the August newsletter as I am not attending.

Editor

Big Sky Report

Dr. Lee Woodruff has touched base with me from Montana and brings good news. He seems to be enough on the mend to get back to the things he enjoys most. It is good to hear positive news.

“Well, speaking of flying, I'm back in the saddle, giving flight instruction here at Three Forks Municipal Airport, west of Bozeman MT. Done some Navion flying too! We got to the "Ruby Valley Fly-in" 41MT, "Townsend 4th of July Festival of Flight" 8U8, and will help hosting "Three Forks Antique Flyin" August 2-5 ...(y'all 797ers are INVITED!)...It's probably the largest MT flyin! We'll be having Young Eagle flights, BBQs, Competitions, and vendors. .. reminding me of the Apr 30 Catfish 797 shindig!”

Dr. Lee Woodriff

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Completion

Larry Bothof has successfully flown off his 40 hours and made the pilgrimage to Mecca.



40 hours behind him.

Larry's signoff was Saturday, June 24, 2017.

Larry's *Sabrewing* is to be flown in the AirVenture Showcase at Oshkosh '2017.



Larry had vinyl graphics applied.

Both *Sabrewings* are parked at Homebuilt Headquarters and should be there for your perusal.

Editor



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“Start ‘Em Young”

I saw this comment on Allen Rice's FaceBook page, and it kind'a struck a nerve. American General Aviation (GA) was bolstered by WWII in a number of ways. Not only were excess airports built all across the nation, but returning pilots held their yearning to fly. The legion of licensed pilots burgeoned and grew stronger with these experienced enthusiasts. Although the Korean War and the Vietnam War both added their share of pilots to the fold, seventy years of attrition have taken their toll.

I watch the real enthusiasts who love creating things with their bare hands dwindle as the years go by. True craftsmen are fewer in number with many of us content to follow in successful footsteps rather than plow virgin grounds. I have recognized this in myself when I see the handiwork of real innovators and feel the distant call to originality. I get so many wonderful inspirations from the good Lord above but I fall short of living up to the call of my beckoning ideas. Too many ideas, too little time, money or desire. My personal experience mirrors what I see happening in GA. The pool of eager and innovative minds dwindles with the passage of time. The men of action that flew into battle as teen-agers and would eagerly fight to defend our right to fly are being replaced by people who follow along and shrug when another freedom is eclipsed. Oh, there are vocal and furious advocates amongst us, but they are fewer and farther between.

This is part of my motivation to participate in the Young Eagles (YE) program. I am concerned for the future of GA in America. The need for a new generation of enthralled aviators is very real. The certain demise of the Santa Monica airport frames what could possibly become the curtain call of GA. The general public is more outraged by less today than I have ever seen and our base of licensed pilots will shrink if we are not proactive in bolstering our ranks.

The young people who take part in our activities encourage me. I see Alex Melia, Carrie & Seth Johnston who all came through the YE program to become pilots and volunteers among others. As members of the aviation community, we must encourage and foster their interest if we are to leave a growing and vibrant aviation community in our wake.

In Allen's FaceBook posting, he illustrates the healthy enthusiasm of his grandson Tucker Rice. Tucker has grown up immersed in aviation activities. He has now risen to the level of a competent instrument rated pilot more capable than myself. These are but only a few examples of what the YE program can accomplish. I urge all of our members to consider being more involved in the cultivation of our next generation. The future of GA is in their hands.

Start 'Em Young.

Editor



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Tucker Rice @ 5 yrs.



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Members @ Airventure

The Oshkosh Airventure has begun! And Azalea Aviation is there to witness it.

It has been a hard last few weeks pushing to accomplish the many tasks necessary to get to Oshkosh. We had four main goals this year.

- 1) Help Larry Bothof complete his nearly finished Saberwing
- 2) Fly off the 40 test hours and be sure Larry is comfortable in his plane.
- 3) Finish building the new wings for the Saberwing Prototype from actual kit components.
- 4) Fly both planes safely to Oshkosh.

All our goals have been accomplished with some blessings besides.

Larry finished off the 40 hour test period of his Saberwing on Tuesday the 18th. He then had the airplane striping done and made a couple flights with his wife and friends. I was able to test fly the new wings on Tuesday as well and finish any adjustments I needed. Wednesday through Friday were spent in final preparations for our flight to Oshkosh.

Early morning on Saturday, 6:30 am, we left out of Cook County Airport and headed north together. We flew a couple hours up to Maury Co., Tennessee where we refueled. It was a beautiful place, but hot. We left out of Maury Co and flew to Mt Vernon Il. The place was full of airplanes as this is the location for the Airventure Cup Race to start. There were all sorts of fast homebuilts everywhere ready to leave out in the morning for their race. We ate lunch at the restaurant there on field....great burgers and buffet. Because of the heat (98 degrees) we opted to hang around until late to leave out. We took off about 7 pm and flew until Whiteside Airport in IL. There, we tied down the aircraft and stayed the night at a local motel.

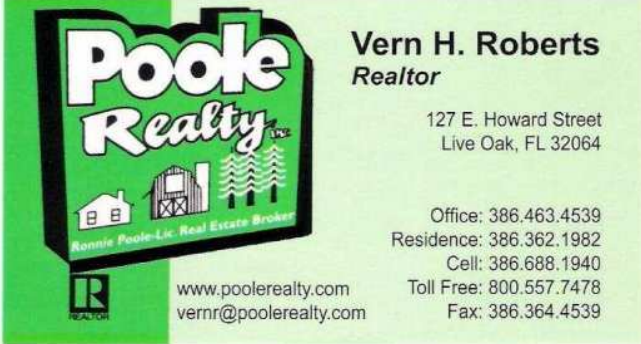
Early morning we were back out and ready for the last leg of the flight to Oshkosh. Having reviewed the NOTAM the night before, we saddled up and headed out. We arrived in Oshkosh about 8:30 am with no problems, and not too much traffic. It was a beautiful flight there and arriving was a blessing. We were parked right in front of the Homebuilders Headquarters and settled down for the long week. Tired, hot, but happy. Larry's grin has not gone away as this was his first time to Oshkosh and he flew his own airplane here.

Today, Tuesday the 25th, Larry was given the privilege of flying his airplane in the

"Homebuilder's Showcase" in front of thousands of onlookers. It was great to see him add to the joys of flying and his list of accomplishments.

We have a few more days of exhausted times ahead of us but are anticipating each moment with eagerness. Be in prayer for a safe flight home for all of us.

Bill Clapp



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News Wanted!

This is your newsletter. I am very happy to see that several people have stepped forward with their experiences to fill these pages. Let us know how your project is going or where you've been. It's your newsletter, let's make it about you.



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New Project for Dennis

"I recently bought a Rotorway helicopter project. It has been flown before, but the owner rolled it over on the ground and I have started to rebuild it.

It is mostly disassembled right now and inside a trailer so I do not have any good photos as it sits.



Dennis' new challenge.

It was originally sold in 1988 as an exec 90. In 2001 the Rotorway engine was upgraded at the Rotorway factory to a 152 dual ignition and improved water jackets. In 2006 the frame was upgraded to a 162 frame. It has several other upgrades to the drive system. I am almost done with the new tail boom and am working on repairing some body panels. I also have a new main rotor shaft that will be going in soon.”

Dennis Wolcott

Suwannee Valley Flying Club News



The SVFC club fee structure is:
Flying/Pilot Membership: \$200 initiation fee,
\$40/month dues, \$40/hr airplane rental.*
Social Membership: \$10/month

The next SVFC meeting will immediately follow the EAA 797 meeting on Sat, August 26, 12PM. For the latest information on the SVFC check out Facebook/Suwannee Valley Flying Club.

*Flying/Pilot members must also belong to EAA 797 for \$15/year.

Pancake Breakfast

The next Pancake Breakfast hosted by Chapter 797 will be at 24J on August 12, 2017. We'll have pancakes and sausage, orange juice, and coffee - \$4.00 a head; 08:30 to 10:30 AM; Suwannee County Airport, 24J.

Barbeque Fly-In

Chapter Members Bill & Kyoung Clapp invite one and all to visit Cook County Airport (15J) for another of Azalea Aviation's monthly barbeque fly-ins. After you have your breakfast at the club house, go on up for the lunch time eats.

Corvair Fly-In

The weekend of Sept 9th will see a first known gathering of expressly Corvair powered aircraft. Cook County Airport (15J) will have camping, flight events and a little bit of history at what is believed to be the first ever Corvair Fly-In.

The event is in the planning stage for now, but mark your calendar and check "Social Flight" for details as they emerge

Tailwind

I'm sure that I missed something or someone and I welcome healthy criticism. You can send comments, questions, ideas or articles to:

dave@davesflyin.com

