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MountainLand Flyer

EAA Chapter 17-- Knoxville, TN



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Carpenter

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President's Comments

From Ken Carpenter

The banquet will be January 24th at Ramsey's Restaurant in the Day's Inn at North Central Pike and Merchant's Road. They are downstairs with entrances at the East end of the building and the back. You can also come in through the front of the motel and go down one floor. This is the same Ramsey's we have enjoyed in years past, in a new location. Bill and I have checked out the food and it is as good or even better. The cost is \$20 a person and that covers your dues and meal. If you bring a guest, they will cost \$15 additional. The program features Bob Cardin from the Glacier Girl Project. He will have slides and discussion with more details than the visitors there hear. He will also have some merchandise available for those interested.

The coming year promises to be more interesting than last. Young Eagles will continue and there will be more social emphasis. Last year the best attended events were the picnic and the Oshkosh Report. More of that is planned with events at DKX and perhaps other places. We'll vote on new officers and let the old timers be advisory. Come to the banquet and hear more about it.

The December meeting was fun with Leon Ridenour presenting a program about the Wright Brother's engine and showing his similar one cylinder model. Bill and Gladys Lofgren brought a cake with a model of the Wright Flyer on top. I think Ralph and Phyllis Wallen helped with that also. A delicious time was had by all.

It has been a good year for me as President of chapter 17. I thank you all for your support. Bill Lofgren has been a tremendous help and the chapter really runs on the back of the Secretary/Treasurer. Gary Picou has done outstanding work as Newsletter Editor for many years. Don Miller has been the best Chairman for Young Eagles we have ever had and we have had some good ones. Don has some great ideas for 2004.

At the personal level, the Europa now has the glider wings but weather has not been good for gliding. The plane handles well though completely different than the short wings. Roll rate is slower and it needs lots more rudder input. Landings have been bouncier as I work on getting it to slow down. I expect you all will see more of it in the coming year.

“How we did it”

Young eagles Wrap up report.

October 25th was a good day for aviation. Chapter 17 EAA volunteers hosted the largest Young Eagle day to date. 240 children came to Sky Ranch between 8:30 AM and 2PM to learn more about airplanes and have the opportunity to experience powered flight. Thirteen pilots, three ground school, five ground operations and three registration persons staffed our operations.

Piloting were: Pat Byrne, Dr. Ken Carpenter, Mark Collins, Bill Dritt, Dale Grubbs, Dan Kraushaar, Les McLaurin, Don Miller, Dr. Don Morando, Ron Poor, Barry Sanders, Dave Stevenson and Gordon Webster. David Vickers was to help, but had to cancel at the last minute. We had more than 45,000 hours of PIC experience on the flight line during the day! Our ground school was also a strong effort with Ed Dumas (pilot with NOAA), Lee Erickson and CD Martin (former military pilot) team teaching. Although not quite ready for prime time television, these guys really do a great job. Sky Ranch's grass strip was steaming with the air traffic, and operations were smooth as could be with Darrel Sexton (retired) our air traffic controller, Sam Suffern loadmaster, Jim Golden heading the Sky Ranch volunteers, and Sig and Lisa Christensen deftly handling land based vehicle parking. Last, and definitely most important, were the registration team of Jean Lester, Anna Miller, and Sam Watkins who has only been a member for two months.

So the question is, how did we put this together? During the last nine years, Chapter 17 has routinely held two Young Eagle events per year. These have often been modest events which fielded 6 to 8 pilots and 50 to 75 children. In recent years, we have used the lessons learned, and added some new wrinkles using the internet and web mail groups in the planning. We started planning for this event just after the early May event. Using the May 5th Young Eagle Day e-mail list, we announced the October event. Some of these contacts were Boy Scout and home school mail lists. We also put the event on the Knoxville community web calendar and our club web site. By July we had two Boy Scout troops and one Cub Pack confirmed plus 25 home school families. Reservations slowed during August and early September, but heated up seriously in late September. A pilot and magazine owner, ran a small article in his area magazine in September, which produced 30-40 calls from fami-



lies. Also that month, the CBS television station interviewed the Young Eagle chairman on Saturday morning. The station had seen our announcement on the Knoxville web calendar. We concluded the marketing process with 12 troops, 6 Cub Packs, 2 Girl Scout Troops, about 50 home schooler's, and many families. We began future scheduling families at the 200 point due to our limited airport space and pilot staff. These families will be reminded about our spring event in January. We felt that flying more than 4 hours was not in the best interest of safety, and our East Tennessee afternoons are famous for turbulence. We began using e-mail to send families an Adobe Acrobat PDF file containing the registration for about two years ago. They can print as many forms as are needed and bring them to the field filled out and with the parent's signature. Another interesting paper work efficiency tool, we have discovered, is the pilot information business card. As anyone who has worked a Young Eagle Day can attest, the cleanup and conclusion of the paper trail can be daunting. We pre-register all pilots far enough in advance to have all required person and aircraft information which is placed on a business card. Each pilot is given 20 to 30 cards to be given to the youth as they de-plane. The cards are exchanged at registration for their Young Eagle certificate. The cards are stapled to the registration form and WaLa, the records are ready for mailing. These ideas may not work for everyone, but it should prove to be food for thought.

Don Miller, YE Chairmn Chapter 17, EAA

Young Eagle Missions as of November 2003

Rank	Name	Total Missions
1	Carpenter	229
2	McLauren	193
3	Kraushaar	188
4	Grubbs	184
5	Miller	123
6	Sanders	91
7	Depew	78
8	Byrne	71
9	Sentell	66
10	Stevenson	63
11	Dritt	49
12	Schonagen	38
13	Wheeler	35
14	Ridenour	31
15	Berry	28

This proves that your chapter leadership is a cut above!”



Leon Ridenour explains powerplant fundamentals from the first flights..



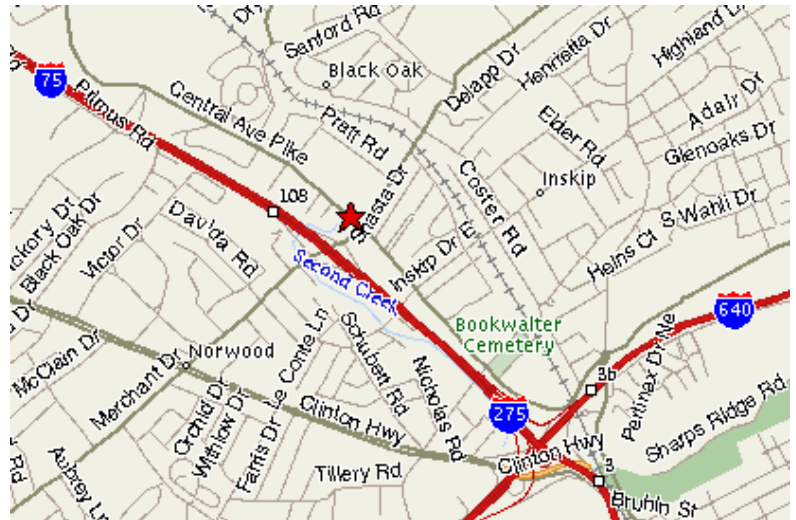
Bill and Gladys Lofgren's cake, made with the Wright Stuff.



Photos by Don Miller from recent visit to Martinsville, VA. Note NASCAR Drivers' jets waiting to dash away after the race



.NOTE: The January 24th Banquet will be held at Ramsey's NEW location, in the Day's Inn, at 5335 Central Avenue Pike, just off I-75/675 and Merchants Drive.



Chapter 17 NLE
412 Huxley Road
Knoxville, TN 37922

NOTAM

**EAA Chapter 17
NEXT Meeting!
Saturday
Jan 24th, 2003
Ramsey's**

Meeting Change!