



Columbus Area Aviators

EAA Chapter 729 Newsletter
Columbus Municipal Airport
Columbus, Indiana

December, 2003 Volume 7, Issue 12

December Meeting

As part of celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Wright Brothers First Flight, the Dec. meeting will be a "day trip" on Wed., Dec. 17th to the Air Force Museum, Huffman Flying Field, and Carillon Park in Dayton Ohio. We will depart from the Columbus Municipal Airport Terminal Bldg. Parking Lot at 6:30 am. The AF Museum opens at 9:00 and the trip is expected to take 2.5 hours.

We have a number of chapter members willing to drive so we have plenty of seats available for the trip. **If you would like to join us for this trip, please let one of the following officers know so we can plan the arrangements:**

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Doug Burgham | 812-314-3244 |
| Dick Gaynor | 812-379-9344 |
| Mike Foushee | 812-342-3032 |
| Toby Orme | 812-376-3820 |

November Meeting



The November meeting was held at Mike Williams' hangar to review one of his current projects – Jim Moss' replica of the Laird Super Solution race plane. The plane was on the cover of the October 2002 issue of Sport Aviation. Mike will be making repairs to the wheel pants and the main gear supports. This beautiful aircraft is a replica of the famous early 1930's racer flown by Jimmy Doolittle (see "airminded" website below for a speech by Doolittle on the testing of this plane).

Future Meetings

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jan 8 th | Eclipse Jet Update Dan McElroy |
| Feb 12 th | FAA Safety Seminar Lew Owens |
| Mar 4 th | Air & Space Museum Toby Orme |

Indy Aero Club Trip

The Indy Aero Club has scheduled a one day trip to the new Udvar-Hazy Air & Space Museum at Dulles Airport. The trip on January 22nd includes round trip airfare on an ATA 737, ground transportation, museum entry, and dinner at the Dulles Marriott. Cost of the trip is \$279 per person. If you are interested in going on this trip, contact Jim Graham at 317-852-8119.

Interesting Web Sites

www.airminded.net/lcdw500/laird_testing.html
www.nasm.si.edu
www.wpafb.af.mil/museum
www.firstflightcentennial.org

Aviation/Member News

Officers For 2004

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| President | Doug Burgham |
| Vice President | Dick Gaynor |
| Sec./Treasurer | Larry Morlock |
| Newsletter Editor | Mike Foushee |
| Young Eagle Coord. | Toby Orme |
| Historian | Dave Timbers |
| Director | Toby Orme |
| Director | Karl Schilling |

Nametags

Nametags with our EAA logo, your name, and one line stating your interests (Aircraft, N-Number, etc.) will be made available free of charge to those members who have not yet received one. Replacement nametags can be obtained for \$6.00. Contact Larry Morlock if you are interested in getting a nametag.

Newsletter Input

The newsletter editor is always looking for member input. If you have input please contact Mike by phone at 812-342-3032 or e-mail at mike.j.foushee@cummins.com by the third Friday of each month.

Calendar of Events

- December 13-17 First Flight Centennial Celebration – Kill Devil Hills, NC
- April 13 – 19 Sun & Fun Fly-In
Lakeland, FL
- July 31 – Aug 1 Mt Comfort Airshow
Air Force Thunderbirds

Aviation History

Milestones From The Century of Flight

As part of the “Centennial of Flight” celebrations this year, the Air Force Association’s web site has an extensive listing of aviation events/achievements since 1903. Each month this year I will include selected items for each of the months leading up to December 17th. The ones for December are listed below –

12/17/03 – Orville Wright achieves the world’s first manned, powered, sustained, and controlled flight by a heavier-than-air vehicle. His fourth and longest flight of the day was 852 feet in 59 seconds at Kitty Hawk, NC.

12/5/07 – Wilbur Wright appears before the Board of Ordnance and Fortification and offers the US Government an airplane capable of carrying two people, for \$25,000.

12/11/12 – A French pilot, Roland Garros, sets an altitude record of 18,406 feet in a Morane airplane at Tunis.

12/31/34 – Helen Richey, flying a Ford Tri-Motor from Washington DC to Detroit, becomes the first woman in the US to pilot an airmail transport aircraft on a regular basis.

12/17/35 – Company pilot Carl Cover, along with Fred Stineman (copilot) and Frank Collbohn (flight engineer) make the first flight of the Douglas Sleeper Transport, the first of 10,654 DC-3’s and derivatives Douglas will build between 1935 and 1947 takes place at Clover Field, Santa Monica, CA. The US Military will use the military version, the C-47 in three wars. A number of civilian and foregn “Gooney Birds” were still in use in the late 1990’s.

12/31/38 – The Boeing Model 307 Stratoliner, the first passenger airplane to have a pressurized cabin, makes its first flight.

12/29/39 – The prototype Consolidated XB-24 Liberator makes a 17 minute first flight from Lindbergh Field in San Diego, with company pilot Bill Wheatley at the controls. More than 18,100 B-24’s will be built in the next 5.5 years, making for the largest military production run in US history.

12/7/41 – The Japanese Navy air force strikes military facilities at Pearl Harbor,

Hawaii. A total of 274 enemy aircraft were involved in the attack which brought the US into WWII.

12/11/41 – Pilot Officer John Gillespie Magee Jr., the author of “High Flight”, the best known poem about aviation, is killed when his Supermarine Spitfire collides with another airplane over Britain. He was only 19 years old. An American serving with the Royal Canadian Air Force, Magee had written “High Flight” in Aug. or Sept. and mailed a copy to his parents in Washington, DC

12/17/47 – The prototype Boeing XB-47 Stratojet bomber makes its first flight from Boeing Field in Seattle, WA with pilots Bob Robbins and Scott Osler at the controls.

12/30/47 – The Soviet MiG-15 is flown for the first time.

12/31/48 – The 100,000 flight of the Berlin Airlift is made.

12/12/53 – Maj. Charles E Yeager pilots the rocket powered Bell X-1A to a speed of Mach 2.435 (approx. 1,650 MPH) over Edwards AFB.

12/14/62 – NASA’s Mariner II satellite scans the surface of Venus for 35 minutes as it flies past the planet at a distance of 21,642 miles.

12/17/63 – The Lockheed C-141A Starlifter, USAF’s first jet powered transport makes its first flight at Marietta, GA.

12/22/64 – The Lockheed SR-71A “Blackbird” makes its first flight from Palmdale, CA. It climbs to 45,000 feet and reaches a speed of more than 1,000 MPH during the flight.

12/31/68 – The Soviet Union conducts the first flight of the TU-144, the world’s first supersonic transport.

12/17/93 – On the 90th anniversary of the Wright Brothers’ first sustained flight, the first operational Northrup B-2 Stealth Bomber, “Spirit of Missouri” is delivered to the 509th Bomb Wing at Whiteman AFB, MO.

Aviation Humor

This item appeared in an issue of “Australian Aviation” magazine.

Rules of the Air

1. Every takeoff is optional. Every landing is mandatory.
2. If you push the stick forward, the houses get bigger. If you pull the stick back, they get smaller. That is, unless you keep pulling the stick all the way back, then they get bigger again.
3. Flying isn’t dangerous. Crashing is what’s dangerous.
4. It’s always better to be down here wishing you were up there than up there wishing you were down here.
5. The ONLY time you have too much fuel is when you are on fire.
6. The propeller is just a big fan in front of the plane used to keep the pilot cool. When it stops, you can actually watch the pilot start sweating.
7. When in doubt, hold on to your altitude. No one has ever collided with the sky.
8. A “good” landing is one from which you can walk away. A “great” landing is one after which you can use the plane again.
9. Learn from the mistakes of others. You won’t live long enough to make all of them yourself.
10. You know you’ve landed with the wheels up if it takes full power to taxi to the ramp.
11. The probability of survival is inversely proportional to the angle of arrival. Large angle of arrival, small probability of survival, and vice versa.
12. Never let an aircraft take you somewhere your brain didn’t get to minutes earlier.
13. Stay out of clouds. The silver lining everyone keeps talking about might be

another airplane going in the opposite direction. Reliable sources also report that mountains have been known to hide out in clouds.

14. Always try to keep the number of landings you make equal to the number of takeoffs you've made.
15. There are three simple rules for making a smooth landing. Unfortunately no one knows what they are.
16. You start with a bag full of luck and an empty bag of experience. The trick is to fill the bag of experience before you empty the bag of luck.
17. Helicopters can't fly; they're just so ugly the earth repels them.
18. If all you can see out of the window is ground that's going round and round and all you hear is commotion from the passenger compartment, things are not at all as they should be.
19. In the ongoing battle between objects made of aluminum going hundreds of miles per hour and the ground going zero miles per hour, the ground has yet to lose.
20. Good judgement comes from experience. Unfortunately, the experience usually comes from bad judgement.
21. It's always a good idea to keep the pointy end going forward as much as possible.
22. Keep looking around. There's always something you've missed.
23. Remember, gravity is not just a good idea. It's the law. And it's not subject to repeal.
24. The three most useless things to a pilot are the altitude above you, runway behind you, and a tenth of a second ago.

Additional Laird Photos

