

The FlightLine

Next Meeting January 21st ! Gotta Be There Or Else!

January, 2006

Happy 2006 ! Welcome Chapter 40 to the Electronic Frontier

THE FLIGHTLINE

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER
OF EAA CHAPTER 40
VAN NUYS / SAN
FERNANDO VALLEY,

DEDICATED TO THE HOBBY
& SCIENCE OF AIRCRAFT
BUILDING, RESTORATION,
YOUTH OUTREACH
THROUGH AVIATION, AND
FOSTERING THE GROWTH
OF PRIVATE AVIATION AND
AIR SPORTS.

**CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO ALL, AND ARE
HELD AT 9AM ON THE 3RD
SATURDAY OF EACH
MONTH, AT ROCKY'S RES-
TAURANT AT WHITEMAN
AIRPORT**

CALL 818-705-2744 FOR
MORE INFO.

www.eaa40.org



Well, folks, this IS a first. This is the first **dedicated electronic newsletter** for EAA Chapter 40. If this idea continues to be well received, we will be all but eliminating the printed paper newsletter of the past. For one or two chapter members who cannot receive the newsletter this way, Charlie will print and mail a paper copy to you, just ask. If any of you have problems receiving this, contact Charlie at cod2@pacbell.net and we'll try to work out the problems immediately. The newsletter will be formatted in Adobe PDF, which is the worldwide standard. You can download the Acrobat reader program for free, from a reputable company, at www.adobe.com.

During my tenure as the newsletter guy, the newsletter has always been written first as text in Microsoft Word, then pasted into good old Microsoft Publisher for basic page formatting. More recently, it had been converted to Adobe PDF format and simply e-mailed to a print shop, which worked out very efficiently for the poor V-tailed soul who had to go pick them up and fold, staple, stamp, label, and mail them.

Fortunately, the Adobe PDF format lends itself very well to e-mail, so the newsletter will be sent out that way to you, bypassing the time and money of the print shop, the stamps, the post office, etc. PLEASE send us your feedback about this new electronic version of the newsletter; it's the only way your chapter leadership will know how to serve you better!

Contact Chapter 40 President Charlie Ducat at the e-mail address above, or you can e-mail yours truly at victorbravo@sbcglobal.net with your feedback.

Because of this change to electronic format, the newsletter now does not have to be limited to 4 or 8 pages. If there is a slow month, it can be 2 or 3 pages...and if there's lots of information it might be 7 or 9 pages. This also will make it possible for your newsletter to more easily include previously written articles from other authors, other sources, and items of interest taken from the internet. This also means that we want stories, articles, writings and information from YOU. You will *never again* have to live with the crippling fear that your writings will be overlooked, edited, mangled, forgotten, or stepped on because of "space limitations".



EAA Chapter 40 Hotline

818-725-4AIR

President - Charles Ducat Vice President - Dave Kolstad

Treasurer - Ferd Kuhn Secretary - Tom Hastings

Young Eagles Co-ordinator - Alycia Herman Newsletter - Bill Berle

And Now, Back to 2005 for a Word From Our Sponsor

Actually, a word of thanks FOR our sponsor. Before we get any further in 2006, we need to thank Tom, Joyce, Jake and Amber Hastings (as well as their big friendly shaggy new dog), for hosting the fabulous 2005 Chapter 40 Christmas and Holiday Season party! As promised, we all had a great time. This party is the highlight of the year for most chapter members, topped off by the world famous White Elephant Gift Exchange.

Please join the entire membership of Chapter 40 in a sincere thanks to Tom and his family for having us over. More than one person was heard to say that they couldn't wait for December 06!



2006 Young Eagles Program News

Due to popular demand (really), Chapter 40 will be going back to MONTHLY Young Eagles flight rallies instead of once every other month. Please see the graphic of the new 2006 Young Eagles form for the 2006 dates. Young Eagles flying will now be on the FOURTH Saturday of **each** month. We are very pleased that the demand has supported this, because it shows that the Young Eagles program is **making a difference** in the community and for aviation's future.

What this also means is that we will need **more** pilots and airplanes, and **more** ground crew to operate the program every month.

Please spread the word about our program to others. We will now have the ability to fly more kids, so you can approach scout troops, church groups, schools, and individuals. If you have the opportunity to speak to someone at a local newspaper or TV reporter, please do so. If you know someone at a local business, such as a bank or car dealership, please take a minute to put them in touch with us to talk about **sponsoring** our Young Eagles program on some level.

More 2006 News



It gives all of your chapter leaders great pleasure to report that our hangar is now self-supportive. This represents an incredible milestone and the achievement of a **very important** goal. Please take a minute to thank **Charlie** for sticking to his vision, even when it was doubtful

whether the initial investment would pay off. Please also give a hearty thanks to Chapter 40's Field Marshal of Hangar Management **Ferd Kuhn**, whose leadership and hard work has made the hangar into a self-supportive entity and asset to the chapter.

Speaking of the Chapter's *consigliere*, Ferd has issued instructions to "put the word out on the street" that your yearly vigorice...uhhh...annual \$20 chapter dues...are now due and payable. Ferd was quoted as saying "You owes us twenty big ones and we ain't seen it yet. Them dues is what allows me to retain the services of Rocco and Nunzio over here, and they'll be very disquieted if I don't see the twenty bucks from some of you's before the next meeting in da restaurant."

Our monthly meetings will remain the same in 2006, being held on the THIRD Saturday of each month at 9AM, in Rocky's Restaurant at Whiteman Airport. Bring your \$20 dues to Ferd... he'll be the one in the pinstriped suit with a cello case, flanked by his two business associates, sitting against the back wall of the joint, facing toward the door.



Rocket Racing League

You heard me right... the Rocket Racing League! Remember a few years ago one of our guest speakers was Dan Ryan from XCOR... a group who was competing for the X-Prize with a prototype rocket powered Long-EZ? It seems that these folks are at the center of an interesting (if not downright hair-raising) idea. Rocket powered aircraft, racing around pylons as a spectator sport. Not surprisingly, this has become a feature story in Popular Science magazine, edging out 100 MPG carburetors and houses built from Saran Wrap for a big 2006 cover story. When the Rocket Racing League becomes a million dollar prize event, you can be sure Chapter 40 will make use of the three or four **rocket scientists** we have as members to help field an entry!



Big News From Oshkosh to Van Nuys!

Guess what's coming back this April? Hint: It's big, it has four engines, it's over 60 years old, and it has just a *little bit* of a **score** to settle with Runway One-Six Right at Van Nuys.

ALUMINUM OVERCAST, the EAA's B-17 Flying Fortress, is nearing completion of its rebuild, and will once again be coming to Van Nuys as part of a nationwide tour. Aluminum Overcast will be here for the weekend of **April 14th through 16th**, and thanks to your efforts and hard work on the last few B-17 events, Chapter 40 will once again be coordinating the airplane's visit.



The B-17 "Fuddy Duddy" which was used as an interim replacement has been sold for over \$3 Million. EAA repair/restoration crews are hard at work readying Aluminum Overcast to resume her duties as a flying, living artifact keeping history alive.

Once again, **Barbara Cesar** and the Syncro facility will host the B-17's visit. Chapter 40 member **Ann-Marie Radell** will be managing the event from the chapter's perspective, and Chapter 40 member **Elliot Sanders** will be skillfully navigating through channels on the Van Nuys side.

Stay tuned for more information, because there are plans afoot to make this another big event with media coverage, celebrities, and activities.

Tim Sullivan's Ready to Put the AIR in Zenair!

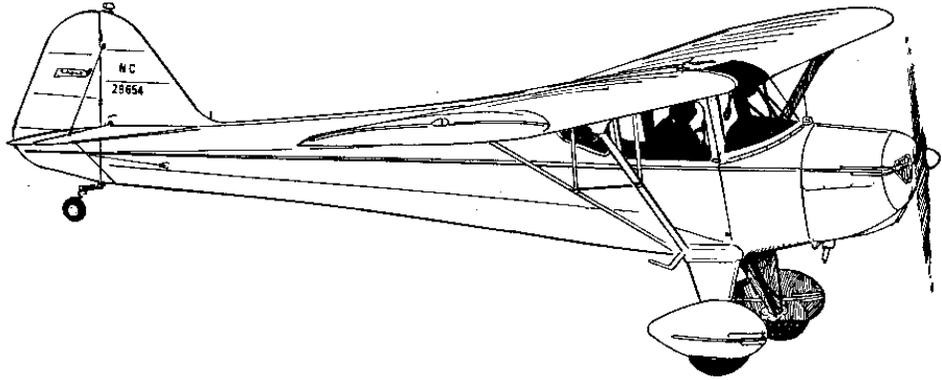
Chapter 40 would like to congratulate **Tim Sullivan** for completing his Zenair and making it ready for flight. Now only waiting for good "first flight" flying weather stands in his way. It is interesting to note that most of the recent delays Tim has had to deal with were because of delays and requirements generated by the insurance company. All aviation engineering textbooks are now being updated with the concept that aircraft fly on a cushion of paperwork, not air. Please join all of the chapter membership in wishing Tim a safe, successful and operationally boring first test flight.

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THE FLIGHTLINE

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 40



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T-craft Back in the Air

It is with pride and a big sigh of relief that I can announce my little 1940 Taylorcraft is back in the air. After a two week repair that turned into a six month upgrade, it leapt back into the sky on January 12th. Three touch and goes showed that nothing was leaking or coming un-glued, so we headed out to Agua Dulce to use their Men's room. The flight back to Whiteman went smoothly as well. It was found that the Continental 65 didn't leak fuel or oil anywhere it wasn't supposed to, and leaked a drop or two of oil in places where it is supposed to.

For those of you who may have read my story "Bendix Stromberg and the Paranoid Terrorist Hot Dog Attack" regarding the carburetor issue and related engine failures the last time it flew, the carburetor that was loaned to me by a very experienced IA at Whiteman functioned flawlessly. While the aircraft was disassembled, it underwent the structural upgrades to mount an 85 horse engine at any time afterwards, as well as repairing worn out wing attach fittings. Please allow me a moment to sincerely thank Chapter 40 members Ralph Snyder and Mike Langdon and several others for their help, skills, and support on more than one occasion.

Odds and Ends and Ads and Fads

Luscombe Wings \$500

Also available Landing gears, tail surfaces, engine mount, lots of C-65 parts. Seller says he will sell at half of new replacement cost.

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