



Drag-On-Flyers

EAA Ultralight

Chapter 17

"For Ultralighters and Sport Pilots"

October 2013

President: Steve Peck
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Vice President: J.D. Rexroad
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Secretary: Brad Safford
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Treasurer: Mark Abbott
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Newsletter: Keith Howard
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ANUG Rep: J.D. Rexroad

Refreshments: Steve Peck

The Prez sezs...

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 29, 7 pm @ Chalco Hills Recreation Area

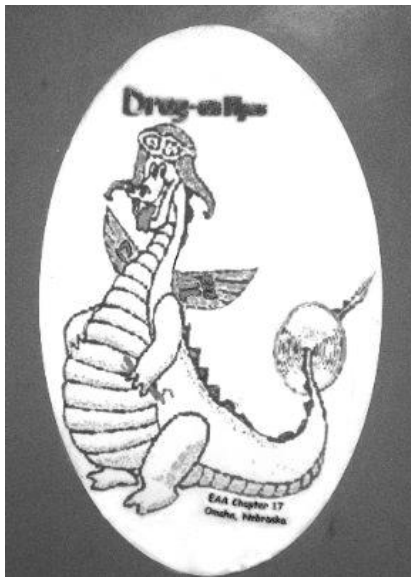
I can't believe it is October. That would mean a "flying season has come and gone". It would mean that at any hour we could see snow! It means that a fourth of our club will disappear for the next three months.

It also means that we can have elections for the upcoming year. Our present officers are JD Rexroad as Vice-President, Mark Abbott-Treasurer, Brad Safford-Secretary, Keith Howard-Newsletter Editor, and Steve as President. If you would like to run for an office, please contact Steve or bring it up at the meeting. Pay is still in negotiations, but it doesn't look good for early retirement. Rick and Nancy as Campground Hosts at the E.A.A. Air Show are voted in again.

JD will report on the Chute Flyers Fly-in held at the Field of Dreams.

An upcoming event is our Christmas Party held at El Bee's on Highway 50 just south of I 80. We will meet and eat at six o'clock and then we will have our gift exchange. Women and men's \$10.00 gifts are traded and then stolen up to two times so that they end up in the proper hands.

See you at the meeting Tuesday, October 29th at Chalco Hills Recreation Center 154th and Giles at 7:00 p.m. The tea lady said he would bring some cookies and drinks that mix with water. If you're hungry, we will see you at El Bee's 10402 S144th St. around 5:30 or so.



Calendar

Chapter 17 Events

Jan 28, 2014 - EAA 17 Christmas Party, El Bees, Millard

Others

Oct 26, St. Charles Smartt Field, Portage des Sioux, MO
Fall Open House & Pumpkin Drop

www.stcharlesflyingservice.com

1st Sat. of Month - York Airport
EAA Chapter 1055
Breakfast 8 - 10 a.m.

3rd Sat. of Month - Crete Airport
EAA Chapter 569
Breakfast 8 - 10 a.m.

Chapter 17 Minutes

Chapter 17, September 24th, 2013

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes were accepted as they were printed in the news letter.

Treasurers Report

\$731.45 balance before paying for the Chili at Scribner.

Monthly Activities

Sept 27, 28, and 29 - Field of Dreams in Springfield. JD is having the Neb Chute Flyers fly-in. Up to 900 feet available (east/west runway). May have a rain date for the first weekend in October if it is too windy.

Nothing else scheduled for this year.

Christmas party Jan 28 at El Bees.

Unfinished Business

Steve reminded folks to get news worthy things to the editor.

The plaque for Larry Bonkers family is still in the works. Matt has the drawing.

Scribner fly-in went very well.

New business

General discussion on printing hats for the club members. JD will have Neb Chute Flyer shirts at the Field of Dreams for "around \$17".

Plans underway at SAS Museum for Indoor Airshow in the early spring. They will be contacting us. New staff there again for most positions.

Green Weenie

Presented to JD again. He damaged his Paracruiser while pictures were being taken. JD admits to hot dogging and making a low pass downwind. On a downwind hard landing, he bounced and then later lost a wheel on a second hard cross wind landing. Final landing was straight into the wind with 3 wheels on his 4 wheel vehicle.

Continued next page ...

Minutes continued from previous page...

Builders Report

Dave moved his home built Zenith out to the Wahoo airport. It is being inspected by members of Chapter 80 later this week. Strobes still need hooked up and flaps attached. Then the FAA will do their inspection before test flights start.

50/50 Raffle

Bob Furr won \$5.50.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:03.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Safford, Secretary

"The New Guy"

More flying adventures from Bob Furr. Thanks, Bob!

I haven't flown as much the past few weeks due to windy weather, but did manage a nice half hour last Friday. It was five when I took off and I was surprised by the remaining turbulence. This time of year with the fields about half harvested, there are lots of places where the sun warms the ground more than it did when everything was covered in green. Not enough to generate strong thermals at five, but enough to notice the bumps! Speaking of windy weather, Friday was no exception. While there was a four knot crosswind at take off, it had picked up to about seven when I came back to land! Fortunately, it was out of the west and there was little turbulence due to ground clutter, so landing was uneventful.

I track all the expenses tied to my ultralight. Some of it is so that I can help keep things under control and some is bragging rights every time I get some Cessna driver give me grief about flying an ultralight. They honestly don't have a strong comeback when I point out that my cost of flying is less than \$30/hr all up including maintenance and hanger rent. In fact even factoring in the cost of the vehicle, I am under \$70 and dropping.

If you don't keep a log book and want to consider it, take a look at the Sport Pilot log from Aviation Supplies & Academics (www.asa2fly.com). It really works well for ultralights of all kinds and over time if you record weather faithfully, it helps you judge good flying days better.

Final thing for this month... there are some really great groups on Facebook for ultralights. All you need to join Facebook is an email address and a few minutes. Lots to learn and some really great folks who love the sport as much as we do.

"EAA Hints for Homebuilders - Testing Dacron Sailcloth"

For those of you who fly aircraft with Dacron sails, check out the following EAA video on how to check sailcloth strength using a Quicksilver tester.

<http://www.eaavideo.org/video.aspx?v=666091412001>



2013 Field of Dreams Fly-In Report

Here's J.D.'s report of this year's Nebraska Chute Flyers (NCF) gathering at the Field of Dreams (FOD).

"Another NCF fly-in has come and gone. Even after being postponed twice. Third time, the charm.

I got to the FOD Friday afternoon to do some finish set up work. I planned on the weekend and moved into my camper. About 2 P.M., I started the mowing of the field and finished by 5:15 or so. Although it had been windy all day, it was near calm on the field when I finished mowing. I know I said that it was going to be a no-fly day, but I could not pass up the chance to go fly; I was there! I took two short flights. First was set up, fly, and check the conditions. On the second one, after readjusting a riser and dressing warmer, I flew until after sunset. Watched the sunset from 500 feet! The sky was clear and there was a really beautiful afterglow to be watched. It was a good day.

I want to say thanks to those that showed up for the Nebraska Chute Flyers fly-in Saturday and Sunday. I know it was not a great weekend this year, but those that showed up did get to fly, Saturday morning and again that evening, plus again Sunday morning and again Sunday evening. Two of us Saturday morning, flying from 8 to 10! Upper winds got to a point that I even stopped moving forward. A few more people arrived, the grill was fired up and hot by 2ish, and then the usual for the menu: burgers and brats. For the afternoon, we kicked back for some easy chair flying for a while. We had a nice surprise, a visitor flying in. Wayne Henning was working Saturday, and with crew Chuck and Pat, flew in with the Creighton University life flight helicopter. They stayed about a half hour. They were here for the Springfield fire department open house and BBQ. After they left, we started flying again. There were 6 in the sky, out of 8 pilots. Butch and others went to Springfield to fly around the city. I was first up and it was a short, wind dummy flight; 10 minutes or so. I landed and went to help Steve Peck set up his Buckeye, PPC. I got it to the point of ground handling and kiting the wing up.

After a sunset landing, everyone said their goodbye's was gone by 0' dark thirty. About 8ish, Dwight, Betty, Steve Peck and I had dinner by the fire. Betty provided the pulled pork and salad for dinner. "Thank you Betty and Dwight"! Dwight, Steve, and I sat by the fire for a while afterwards, told a couple of stories and then called it an evening.

Sunday morning, I was an early riser at 6:00 A.M., but I did not want to be. Awake and looking out the camper window at the Field of Dreams, it was dead calm without any breeze and the field was covered in a thick, fluffy snowflake like frost, almost edge to edge around the field. A gleaming damp green border between the corn and the field, a beautiful sight to be seen! In my early days of flying, I would have been the one making tracks in that frost, readying for a launch, and then falling on my butt because of it being so slick!

I waited and watched the frost melt away into a glittering, wet dew as the sun climbed higher over the corn! Mel and Butch arrived, and we chatted a bit. By 9ish, the grass had dried out, we geared up and went out to fly awhile. By 11:00 A.M., we were blown out by 9 mph winds gusting to 14. Lunch! Burger and Brats again! More easy chair flying for the afternoon! Short nap! Mel left and Doug arrived. We were flying by 5ish. Doug and Butch did a cross country to the races at Greenwood Speedway. They were back at sunset.

Packed up, cleaned up, put away, and gone by 7:30 P.M. See you next year!

J D Rexroad

P.S. Saturday was to be a combined fly-in with the EAA Chapter 17 club and 4 members were in attendance. Sorry I did not have the grill hot sooner; one member left without getting lunch."

2013 Field of Dreams Fly-In Gallery



First ground test of Steve's PPC; that's him in the background with JD manning the controls.

Line check of Steve's PPC.





First launch and flight of Steve's PPC with test pilot JD at the controls.

First landing approach of Steve's PPC.



First landing of Steve's PPC.

**"Anybody know
these two
characters?"**





JD and Wayne with the life flight helicopter.

"Grillmeister" JD shows us how it's done!





JD manning the grill with "Fire Marshall" Dwight providing adult supervision!

Butch with his powered parachute; probably the world's cleanest, most highly detailed PPC.





**Steve's powered
parachute which JD
successfully test
flew. JD managed
to get in flights all 3
days of the fly-in.**

**Arlin's powered
paraglider (PPG)
trike.**





**Mel's powered
parachute after a
successful sortie.**

Instruction, Services, For Sale, Etc.

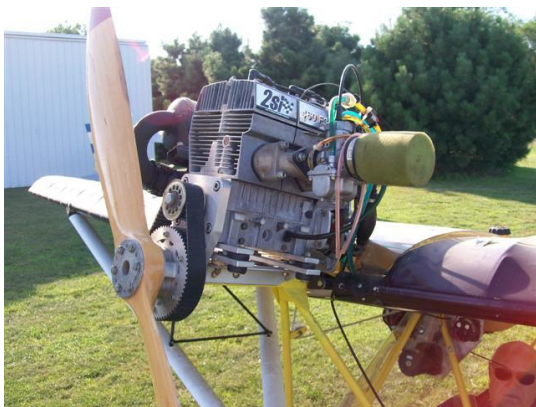
J.D. Rexroad, ASC BFI Flight Instructor. Sales, Service, and Flight instruction for Backpack foot launch Powered Para Gliders, single and dual place and trike gear configurations. Paratoys, Black Hawk dealer. Technical certificates in a wide variety of internal combustion engines.

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Flitplane For Sale

This is the original factory demo machine used by the makers of the kits back in the late 90's. I bought it, hauled it back from Ohio and went thru the engine and repaired the broken wheel. Fly's like a real airplane. Only has about 2 hours on the engine since rebuilt by the Olenick outfit.

Dave Miller
402-334-1595



If you have anything to sell, or anything you need, send me an email – free to club members.

Also, we're always looking for your inputs, tips, photos, etc. for the newsletter.

E-mail submissions to howardkj@att.net no later than the **Wednesday** before the monthly meeting.