



EAA Chapter 478
COCKPIT CHATTER
Lexington Park, MD February 2009



Monthly Chapter Meeting

Date & Time: WEDNESDAY February 18, 2009 @ 7:00 pm

Program: Lycoming Engine Representative Jeff Schans Brief

Location: St. Mary's Airport Terminal Building (2W6)

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& PIREP on W29 from Bernie Wunder

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Cockpit Chatter is published monthly by EAA Chapter 478 solely for the dissemination of information and ideas to the membership. Any opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the chapter or the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Chapter Officers

President: John Attebury

Vice President: Jim Davis

Secretary: Tom Weiss

Treasurer: Don Byrne

Committee Chairs and Chapter Advisors

Social Chairman: vacant

Membership Chairman: vacant

Program Coordinator: Bob Miller

Young Eagles: Joe Spelz

Librarian: John Trybus

A-1 Construction: Jim Byers

Flight Advisors: Steve Grohsmeyer

Technical Counselors: Bernie Wilder, Skip Shepherd

Newsletter Editor: Dan Hammer

Board Members at large: S. Wood, F. Drefs & S. Wood

Web Editor: Bernie Wunder

Chapter Web Address <http://www.eaachapter478.org>

Next Meeting's Program!!!



"LYCOMING ENGINE PRESENTATION"

By

Jeff Schans
Thunderbolt Manager



Date: 18 February 2009 Time: 7:00pm
Location: St Mary's Airport Terminal Building (2W6)

- **PRESIDENTS CORNER**

The Year of the A-1

On January 26 the Chinese New Year begins the year of the Ox

This January, Chapter 478 will begin the year of the A-1

The Ox is the sign of success through fortitude and hard work. This powerful sign is that of a born leader, being quite dependable and possessing an innate ability to achieve great things. An Ox person has a very logical mind and is extremely systematic in whatever they do. According to Chinese legend, such people are dependable, calm, and modest. Like their animal namesake, the Ox is unswervingly patient, tireless at work, and capable of enduring any amount of hardship without complaint. When they have set their mind on something it is hard to divert them from their goal.

Chapter 478 will need to call on these similar qualities to accomplish our goal.

A number of years ago, members of our chapter promised to build a replica of the A-1 to be placed in the St. Mary's County museum located outside the gate at Patuxent Naval Air Station. The A-1 was the first aircraft that the Navy purchased and foretold the beginning of Naval Aviation. For the past years, the museum has been operating out of a temporary facility at that location near the base. Now, a construction project is underway to provide a new museum. The date of completion for the new museum has been extended due budgetary changes. These delays have allowed some slack in our completion of the A-1, but we have reached a point at which we must complete the project. We want the A-1 ready by the museum's opening date.

Along with your board of directors, I am declaring this the year of the A-1 and asking all of you to join us in our mission to complete the A-1 replica. You may expect that most of the efforts of the chapter will be aimed at completing the A-1 during 2009. We will continue to support Young Eagles and other programs that inherently belong to the EAA, but remember, the A-1 will be our main goal.

Jim Byers has agreed to lead us toward our goal. Jim will present his plan at the January meeting and tell you how you can help. We have many fine people to assist in the project, but we need every member to find a way to participate at some level so we can have a successful year. It will take every one of us to reach this goal.

Thank You,

John

- **CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES** - Tom Weiss, Secretary

EAA Chapter #478 Monthly Meeting

- **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING MINUTES**- Tom Weiss, Secretary

EAA Chapter #478 Planning Meeting
February 3, 2008

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:45 P.M.
2. Attendees were: Pres Attebury, Secretary Weiss, Treasurer Byrne, Sid Wood, Shirley Wood, Bernie Wunder, Frank Drefs, Jim Byers and George Miller
3. Billy McDonald passed away last week. A suggesting has been made by Mr. Wood that Billy's name be added to the EAA Memorial Wall in Oshkosh. The cost of this \$350. A discussion took place on how this would be paid for and a suggestion was made that donations would be asked for at the Business Meeting on the 18th. If this is done it has be sent to EAA by April 11, so the plaque would be ready for the dedication

at AirVenture on August 2 at Oshkosh. Mr. Wood is working with the McDonald family to assemble a complete obituary and history for permanent records keep at EAA headquarters.

4. George Miller will be the Chapter's representative to the Museum on all issues related to displaying the A-1. The Chapter will start providing the Museum with a monthly status report on the A-1 Project.
5. Air Expo is coming to Pax at the end of May. A discussion on what display if any the Chapter would want to have. Mr. Wunder will contact the coordinators on the Base to find out more details. All at the meeting agreed the Chapter should have at least a booth advertising our activities.
6. A discussion took place about how the Chapter would pay for all of the materials that would be required to complete the A-1. The topic of participation in the United Way came up again, this may be reintroduced to the Chapter members with the stipulation that any money from the United Way be fenced to ensure it could only be used for A-1 materials. No action was taken on this.
7. A question of whether the Chapter should form a fund raising committee to raise money for A-1 material was asked. No action was taken on this.
8. Mr. Byers is completing the list of tasks/parts and materials that will be needed to finish the A-1. When this is done members will be expected to volunteer to build parts of the A-1 based on their experience. In many cases the material will be included with the drawing package.
9. Joe Spelz is the Young Eagle Coordinator and is currently planning on Young Eagle events in June and the Fall. Planning for these events is just beginning.
10. Total money the Chapter has on hand is about \$2800. A total of 23 members are paid for 2009.
11. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 P.M.

• **Treasurer's report** - *Jim Byers (Acting for Don Byrne)*

Petty Cash	\$ 890.55
Checking	1,536.81
Savings	438.14

	\$2,865.50

• **YOUNG EAGLES Corner**
The Young Eagles Coordinator – *Joe Spelz*
 Web site: <http://www.young eagles.org>.



• **MEMBER'S FORUM**

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 Heads UP – we will have Mr. Jeff Schans from Williamsport, PA give us a presentation on Lycoming engines at our February chapter meeting. We will also be moving our meeting night to Feb 18th (Wednesday) since Jeff will be returning from a business presentation in North Carolina.

Jeff Schans
 Thunderbolt Manager



Lycoming Engines
 652 Oliver St
 Williamsport, Pa 17701

CLASSIFIED:

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FOR RENT OR SALE: None at this time

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FOR SALE: Two Houses with hangars on CRE airport being sold by Century 21 & O Brien Realty

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FOR SALE: House with 44'x44' hangar and 2 car garage on CRE airport. Contact Ed Harvey at 410-326-6388



The A-1 Builder's Corner

A-1 Notes

I am about halfway finished with the recording of and preparing documentation for the continued construction requirements on the A-1. The intent is to be able to supply documentation, material and possibly pictures of parts that need to be fabricated for anyone that volunteers to help. The documentation should



allow the Chapter to tell at a glance where we stand in the building process and how far we still have to go.

Anyone that has plans or parts they have fabricated please furnish me some



1. Jim Byers starting the A-1 Skids

like to make an inventory part of the documentation and ultimately gather all parts into one location for the beginning of assembly.

Keep on building! Jim Byers - Project coordinator

information concerning those materials. I would

2. Jim working on the A-1 skids

• **The Chapter HomeBuilder's Corner**

• *Nothing to report*

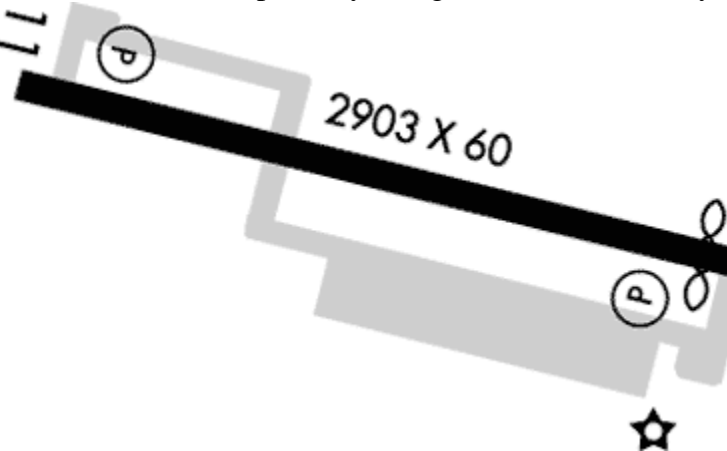
- The Flying corner

PIREP # 1: Jeff Test and I flew over to Cambridge in his C-172 on the 3rd of January. It was a beautiful, clear, crisp day and Jeff wanted to warm up the plane. I flew in the right seat and made about 3 or 4 landings. This got me fired up to get checked out in the right seat of my airplane. We then flew over to Tappahannock to check out the new airport. There is only a nice runway and no taxiways. When we asked why, we were told they ran out of money. They have a beautiful pilot lounge, but no restaurant. They claim they don't have the traffic to support a restaurant. The good news is they have a van and will let you run into town at 30 cents a mile. I asked if it was possible to reserve the van, but they don't want to do that so it is first come, first serve. We got a fill up on cheap gas - \$3.27/gal. If you pay cash, you get a 9 cents discount. There is a small cemetery close to the fuel pumps – probably from students that didn't have much success at soloing ☺. Next time I'll bring my camera along. We could do a group fly in for lunch sometime, but we would probably have to run the van as a shuttle. But it is a nice airport and I am sure will get better with age!

r/Bernie



PIREP #2: I flew up to Bay Bridge (W29) on Saturday, February 7th. This was my first time to this airport and it



was a neat flight straight up the Chesapeake Bay on a clear day (I hugged the shore line since it was a tad cool if I had to go swimming). Not hard to find since it sits right next to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Since it was late afternoon and I was just going to zip up and back and stop at 2W6 to get gas, I entered the pattern and called for a touch and go on runway 11 --- whoops – someone sitting in a Cessna 150 at the end of the runway called back and said “Touch and Go’s are not authorized.” So I landed and found out what a pain that was. I taxied back and then had to wait to cross the runway and then wait to take off due to landing

traffic. But the morale of the story is read your Maryland airport directory – right at the bottom it said “No Touch and Go” but it wasn't in the AOPA Internet Flight Planner -> (**Noise Abatement:** The downwind leg for ry 29 is 2 mi S at the water tower near the shoreline; crosswind leg for ry 29 is 1 mi W of shoreline; base leg for ry 29 is 1 mi E; ry 11 dep turn 20 degrees left when able; ry 11 preferred calm wind ry). Happy flying ☺

R/Bernie

- ***In the Chocks By Editor Dan Hammer: forwarded to me by Sid Wood,***

It is with a deep sense of sadness that the family of Billie S McDonald of Lusby, MD announces his passing Saturday night, January 24, 2009, at Washington Adventist Hospital in Tacoma Park, MD.

“Mac”, as he was known by many throughout the community, was an avid aviation enthusiast. From 1961 to 1987, he owned and operated McDonald Flying Service, Southern Maryland’s first FAA and VA approved flight school where countless numbers of men and women learned to fly. During his days as a flight school owner, Mac inspired many, including his sons, to pursue aviation careers. After he sold the flight school, Mac served as manager of the Navy Flying Club at NAS Patuxent River until 1997. He once served as an Operations Officer for the local wing of the Civil Air Patrol. Mac learned to fly in 1939, and he remained a current pilot and flight instructor until he died at the age of 88.

Billie “Mac” McDonald, a WWII veteran, joined the United States Navy in 1939, and he retired in 1959 as a First Class Petty Officer. He served in the Navy as an AD1, Aircraft Reciprocating Engine Mechanic and Flight Engineer on PBY Catalinas, P5M Marlins, R5D Skymasters, and WV-2 Super Constellations, et al. He continued working for the government as a flight test photo technician and aircraft inspector at NAS Patuxent River until his retirement there in 1979.

Billie will be lovingly remembered by his wife of 65 years, Agnes McDonald, his two daughters Judy McDonald and Rita Dickson, his two surviving sons and their spouses: Douglas and Erika McDonald and Thomas and Kathleen McDonald. He is also survived by the following grandchildren (and their spouses): Lance and Elizabeth Gunderson, Jeff & Annemarie Dickson, Sean & Cathy Dickson, Melissa McDonald, Christine McDonald, Zachary McDonald, and Elise McDonald, his great-grandchildren, Robert “Neal” Gray, Jr., Faith Dickson, Steven Dickson, Ray Ortez Dickson, Gabriela Dickson, Alexander Dickson, Lance Gunderson, Jr.; Sarah Gunderson, and one great-great-grandchild, Ariana Marie Jackson. He is further survived by his brother, C. Ray McDonald of Stockbridge, GA, as well as many dear and devoted friends. He was predeceased in 1959 by his father Charles A McDonald; in 1979 by his mother Beulah S McDonald; in 1989 by his son Billy S McDonald, Jr.; in 2002 by his granddaughter Jennifer Gray and in 2004 by his son-in-law, David G Dickson.

Gone West.....Billie McDonald



1. Beautiful picture of Jeff Test's C-172 at the Tappahannock Airport looking west over the cemetery