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NEBRASKA IOWA

News!

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www.EAA80.org



DECEMBER 2013

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S.E.A.T.S Single Engine Air Tankers

John Thompson shared his experiences as a SEAT pilot working for a company contracted by the US Dept of the Interior (OAS) to fight fires. As indicated above, SEATS aircraft are single engine air tankers used to support firefighters on the ground. Typically the aircraft is an Air Tractor AT-802F which is configured specifically for fighting fires. The engine is 1350 shaft horsepower turboprop with



a five blade constant speed propeller. It has a 820 gallon computer controlled fiberglass retardant hopper. Empty weight is 7,050 lbs with gross being 16,000 lbs.

To qualify to fly SEAT aircraft, the individual must possess a FAA Commercial certificate and a FAA Instrument rating, category

and class ratings in the air tanker to be flown, or type rating if required. In addition, the pilot shall have at least 100 hrs as PIC in

airplanes during the preceding 12 months and a minimum of 10 hrs as PIC in the last 60 days and five takeoffs and landings in the



make and model to be flown in the preceding 12 months. The primary objective of a SEAT aircraft is to support the ground troops in whatever strategy the Incident Commander implements. They are ideal for initial attack when fires are small. They provide quick turnaround and can operate off unimproved strips. They drop at heights of 60 to 100 feet with 80 feet being the best at speeds of 125 mph. Every fire has a “fire traffic area” being managed by an aerial



supervisor who is controlling the activity from 1200 ft while the tankers operate at 600 feet and the helos at 500 ft. John’s personal bio includes 20 years in the military flying props and jets, and later owning a crop dusting business in Arizona. He recently purchased

a Long-EZ which he is very excited about and will be delivered to him in the near future. But I’m not sure if any kind of flying will keep his



interest after the military, crop dusting, and firefighting. I wish him the best.

NO DECEMBER MEETING

Instead members are being urged to attend the Chapter Christmas dinner being held on December 13, Friday, 2013 at the Arbor Hall located at 14040 Arbor Street, Omaha, 68144. Cost will be \$30 per person with a cash bar. More detailed info to follow later.

January 13, 2014 Meeting

Will be held at Epply Airfield at the Nebraska Flight Center. Address 3737 Orville Plaza, Epply Airfield, Omaha, 68110. I believe this is in the TAC Air hanger. David Silchman, a chapter member, has invited the members to come see and fly his recently acquired Redbird simulator. We will meet at the normal time, 7:00 P.M. See you there.

November 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes 7:00 P.M.

Meeting was called to order by President Tom Mann at 19:00. There were 29 members and 1 guest present. A motion was made and the minutes of the October meeting were accepted.

Treasurers Report: Treasurer reported \$3230.xx in checking, \$4908.xx in Money Market, and \$1546.xx in CD for a total of \$9684.87.

Membership Coordinator: Craig Vinopal requests you check in with the attendance book at each meeting.

Young Eagles: Lester Tinnin reported the season is over. Flew 107 kids.

Tech Counselor/Fly Out: Mike Howard gave a short presentation on Nicropress fittings, cable compatibilities and installation techniques.

President Tom Mann thanked all of the Veterans present at our meeting.

Social - Coordinator T.W. reporting:

- Christmas gathering will be Friday, December 13th at Arbor Hall. The expected hours will be 18:00 until with dinner at 19:00.
- There will be Ping to allow people to sign up and to clarify the meal choices and details. You will be able to pay at the door.

Tool Committee: No report.

Builders reports:

- Jerry Ronk reports his Harmon Rocket was inspected by the FAA and is waiting for the paperwork.
- Chris Halfman reports the fiberglass is about done on his RV-7A. He is about to

start the panel and wiring.

- Dave Miler reports the first of the pair of Zenith 601's he is building will be inspected tomorrow.
- T.W. discussed the soda blaster he purchased and how it can be used in aviation.
- Kevin Faris reported he is doing his sixth condition inspection on his 2007 RV-7.

Old Business:

- We will need another work day at the Wahoo hangar to finish the lounge area.
- We need a volunteer carpenter to build a new Audio/Video cabinet built to accommodate easy setup and teardown.

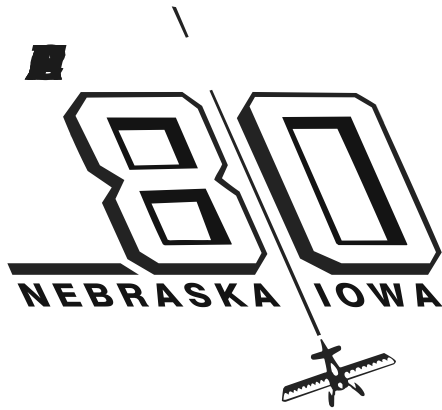
New Business:

Elections were conducted for 2014 with the following results:

- Tom Mann has agreed to continue as President.
- T.W. has agreed to be Vice President.
- Ed Haffke will continue as treasurer.
- David Silchman will take over Secretary duties.
- Mike Howard will continue as Flyout and Tech Counselor.
- Lester Tinnin will continue as Newsletter Editor.
- Craig Vinopal will continue as Membership Coordinator.
- Dale McClure and Lester Tinnin will continue as joint Young Eagles Coordinators.
- Dale Botkin will continue as our Website Administrator.
- Jerry Ronk has volunteered to be Tool Manager.

David Silchman announced to the group that he will be restarting Nebraska Flight Center in the TAC Air building at Epply. He has installed a new Redbird simulator there.

Kevin Faris reported member Gary Parker's son Matthew just received his Private Pilot



Experimental Aircraft Association
- Chapter 80 C/O Hangar One
12916 Millard Airport Plz.
Omaha, NE 68137-4280

Raffle: Scott Furstenberg won the 50/50 raffle.

Program: John Thompson gave a great presentation on Single Engine Air Tankers, and Aerial firefighting and ground support.

Kevin Faris, Secretary

Website: www.eaa80.org

SportAir Workshops

EAA SportAir Workshops: Houston, TX, Dec 7, 2013.

Come gain the knowledge and hands on experience you need to see your dreams take flight. Best of all, they provide the facility, tools, and all of the expertise.

Courses offered in Houston: **Composite Const** 2 days, \$349

Fabric Covering, 2 days, \$349.

Sheet Metal Basics, 2 days, \$349.

Electrical Systems & Avionics, 2 days, \$349.

What's Involved in Kit Building, Evening, \$25.

For workshop info, go to -

<http://www.sportair.com/workshops/> and select the workshop you are interested in. E-Z pay is now available. Call the SportAir hotline at 1-800-967-5746 to register using this option

PIREPS

Nebraska Department of Aeronautics

York Airport (JYR) EAA Chapter 1055 Fly-In breakfast on the 1st Saturday of every month, 0800-1000. Free to PIC.

Crete Airport (CEK) EAA Chapter 569 Fly-In breakfast on the 3rd Saturday of every month, 073-1030.

Seward Airport (SWT) Midwest Aerobatic Club has regular meeting on 3rd Sat of the month

NAC Aviation Symposium—January 22nd-25th in Kearney. Visit: nebraskaaviationcouncil.org

Nebraska Aviation Trades Association Convention— February 24th-26th in Kearney. Visit: gonata.net