

Concho Valley Aviator

Monthly Newsletter, Chapter 493, Experimental Aircraft Association

Refreshments

January
February Bud & Juanita Greene
March Don & Jade Smucker
April Lawrence & Nancy Wright
May Norm & Marty Beauchamp
June George & Martha Spinks
July Don Treadwell
August Al & Anne Elliot
September Pat Nuyten
October Bob Reese
November David Weathersbee
December Christmas Party

February 2010 Newsletter, San Angelo, Texas

February Meeting

The February 2010 meeting will be on February 16th at 7:00 pm in the Mathis Airport Terminal Conference room. The program will be given by Pat Nuyten on a recent trip from New Jersey to San Angelo in a Piper Tomahawk.

Refreshments will provided by Bud and Juanita Greene.

January's refreshments were apparently all eaten by Norm Beauchamp on his way to the meeting. He is sentenced to bring twice as much in May.

Bill Yeates, Editor

Minutes

The minutes of the January meeting were not available . The secretary will present them at the Feburary meeting.

Howard Hughes "Little Spruce Goose"

Here are a few pictures I took of a Sikorsky S-43 that once belonged to Howard Hughes. He bought it in the 1930's and modified it for a record flight around the world. The flight was never made, but Hughes used it for some purpose with the U.S. Army in WW2 and crashed it in Lake Mead in 1943. He recovered it, with the Army's help, from 200 feet of water and rebuilt it. He flew it until the late 1950's when it was stored in a guarded hangar at Hobby Airport. After his death, it was pushed outside where it rapidly deteriorated. It was purchased by a wealthy person from California and restored in Houston by some friends of mine. These photos were made the day it was first rolled out at Wolfe Airpark where I kept the Ercoupe.





Unfortunately, the aircraft did not fly that day due to brake problems, so I never got to see it fly.

It was flown to airshows around the country for several years until the owner passed away. The estate is currently asking in excess of \$20 million for the S-43. It is stored at Brazoria County Airport south of Houston.

There is a lot of information and pictures on the internet. Just do a search on S-43 and Howard Hughes.

Bill Yeates

From JAA Headquarters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DC-3s Flocking to Join AirVenture Birthday Bash

(Jan. 11, 2009) — They're coming from everywhere; some three dozen DC-3 and C-47 aircraft that have already shown interest in participating in "The Last Time..." 75th anniversary celebration of the aircraft at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2010.

The list of potential aircraft that will be participating in the DC-3 mass arrival is still being finalized, but many of the participants are listed at www.TheLastTime.org website dedicated to the formation arrival coming to Oshkosh.

The registration list for the mass arrival on July 26 is now officially filled at 35 aircraft, because of limitations at the staging airports. Other DC-3/C-47 operators are welcome to participate, however, by individually flying to AirVenture, which will be held July 26-August 1 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh. Those aircraft are encouraged to contact Adam Smith at EAA headquarters at asmith@eaa.org.

"This is a tremendous response in just the several weeks since the 75th anniversary commemoration was announced," said Smith, EAA's vice president of membership. "We are still receiving inquiries from owners of some very special DC-3s, and we welcome all of them to be a part of AirVenture 2010, whether or not they are able to participate in the mass arrival." Several of the DC-3s have been regular visitors to Oshkosh in past years, while others have made only rare appearances or have never been here. In all, it promises to be the largest airborne group of DC-3s assembled since World War II, and likely for the last time ever.

One of the details being solved currently is parking for this many magnificent DC-3s at Oshkosh. It's anticipated that AeroShell Square, along with the Warbirds and Vintage Aircraft parking areas, will be fully engaged to showcase these venerable airplanes.

Fewer than 100 of the aircraft remain airworthy in the United States, meaning that nearly half of the current fleet could be present at AirVenture 2010. The weeklong festivities at Oshkosh will also include historical and technical forums/presentations, fly-bys and a special evening DC-3 commemorative program at Theater in the Woods.

Additional EAA AirVenture information, including advance ticket and camping purchase, is available online at www.airventure.org. EAA members receive lowest prices on admission rates. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 1-800-JOIN-EAA (1-800-564-6322) or visit www.eaa.org. Immediate news is available at <http://twitter.com/EAAupdate>.

EDITOR'S NOTE: High-resolution images of DC-3s/C-47s at Oshkosh in previous years are available at http://www.eaa.org/news/2009/2009-11-25_dc3s.asp



Classified

FOR SALE: MEYERS 200A Continental IO 470D, King IFR, up-dated panel, 4-place, leather interior, good paint.
Jim O'Hara, 325/949-3891.

FOR SALE: 1995 Challenger II Clipped Wing Special, Rotax 503, 300 hrs, Good condition but hasn't flown in a couple of years, so to be sold AS IS.
Bill Yeates, 325/223/5072



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