
The FlightLine

Next Meeting March 17th ! Gotta Be There Or Else!

March, 2007

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



The Big Event! You Gotta Be There!

Calling all Chapter 40 members... the biggest single event of 2007 for EAA Chapter 40 is coming soon, and we desperately need your support. The vast majority of this month's newsletter is dedicated to securing YOUR participation in this event because it is so important. Please schedule as much of your time as possible to participate in this event, we really need you!

EAA's gorgeous B-17 **Aluminum Overcast** will be arriving at Van Nuys on Thursday April 19th. We very much need **all** Chapter 40 members to come out on Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday and help with several critically important tasks. These tasks will be mentioned individually in the pages to follow.

Why is this year's B-17 event any more important than it was before? Here is just ONE of the primary reasons...

The "Van Nuys Air Fair" event is a thing of the past. It ain't there no more. He's dead, Jim. Taps. Vaya Con Dios. Chapter 40 *used to* be able to make a significant amount of money by operating a food or drink booth at the Air Fair, money which funded our Young Eagles program and funded our Chapter Hangar project. The B-17 event is now Chapter 40's primary source of income, so it has to be a success. As of this writing, any more progress towards building a hangar or subsidizing fuel for our Young Eagles program will be funded by the B-17 event.



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

Almost Perfect ???

No, we **don't** want to have an *almost* perfect track record. We had a perfect track record, and we kinda liked having a perfect track record. So when the EAA B-17 office in Oshkosh told us that they only had one little complaint about Chapter 40's performance hosting the B-17 last time around, it didn't sit well with any of us.

EAA HQ said we did a great job, but the only criticism they had was that Chapter 40 didn't provide quite enough **ground support** for the event. This was referring to a slight shortage of volunteers to staff the EAA merchandise sales trailer, give the ground tours of the airplane, safety and crowd control, etc. compared to previous years. The B-17 comes to Van Nuys only on our chapter's invitation. We offer to host it, and we consider it an honor to do so. This means that we assume the responsibility to do it right.

This is one of the primary reasons that the Chapter President has asked for all of us to *redouble* our efforts this year... we would very much like to maintain our position as EAA's first or second favorite tour stop for the entire B-17 tour. In pursuit of this goal, we ask that each of you make time to schedule at least two half-day volunteer shifts between Friday, April 20 and Sunday April 22. These shifts can be for B-17 ground safety, staffing the EAA merchandise trailer, the Aviation Career Day Booth (Friday only) Young Eagles Operations (Saturday only), or B-17 ground tours. Please come to the meeting THIS Saturday March 17 and there will be a sign up sheet for your volunteer shifts.

EAA Chapter 40 Donates \$500 to Aviation Career Day

The B-17 event is once again being hosted by **Barbara Cesar** and her Syncro facility. On the same Friday, April 20th, Syncro is hosting an Aviation Career Day for hundreds of high school age students. Chapter 40 has donated \$500 to the Aviation Career Day event, as a small gesture of thanks for the support and generosity that Barbara and her Syncro staff have shown us for our B-17 event over the years. We're in good company, Clay Lacy and several other leading aviation entities have also made donations to this event. Aviation Career Day is growing into a major event in and of itself; among the dignitaries scheduled to attend are Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and perhaps some big name aviation/showbiz celebrities.



Un-Sung Heroes

Chapter 40 would specifically like to thank two members for their time and energies spent on producing and promoting the B-17 event. Long-time Chapter 40 member **Elliot Sanders** has been instrumental in our hosting the B-17 visit since it first came to Van Nuys several years ago. Elliot has built a network of relationships and personal connections that connect EAA, the big aviation players at Van Nuys Airport, the City of Los Angeles, local political leaders and local business leaders. All those big wheels don't turn in unison without a talented guy like Elliot keeping everyone happy.

This year, another talented and energetic force has been introduced to the process. Chapter 40 member and Grumman Tiger owner **Anne Marie Radel** is adding a tremendous amount of positive horsepower to the 2007 event. Anne Marie is a successful entrepreneur who has the ability to knock problems out of the way and get things done. Anne Marie and Elliot have endured countless meetings, overcome hundreds of obstacles great and small, and more than once found solutions that keep deal-killer conflicts between big players under control. They're owed a huge vote of thanks for their efforts, not only by our chapter, but by all of the parties or entities involved with this event.

Young Eagles Special Event



Saturday April 21st will be a special Young Eagles event at Van Nuys airport. We expect more than a hundred kids to be flown. We will need pilots, planes and ground operations volunteers to make this event run smoothly. Please invite friends, family, etc. to come and help out with this portion of the event. Non-pilots and non-aviation people are just as welcome, just as needed, and will be put to good use helping Alycia and the Young Eagles program staff.

Remember, Chapter 40 has flown two and three hundred kids at special Young eagles events like this in the past. Because of our concurrent need for volunteer support at the B-17 and Aviation Career Day on the same weekend, we need all the help we can get to run all these things at once. Please reach out and invite several of your friends to be a part of this amazing event!

AvGas Donated For April 21 Young Eagles !

Please pass the word! The fuel for our Young Eagles event Saturday April 21st will be generously provided by Syncro and Barbara Cesar. We are working on the details of how the fuel will be allocated to prevent a shortage for any participants, but for now all of the fuel used to fly Young eagles kids will be provided free of charge.

We expect a large turnout of kids, and we'll need a larger than average turnout of pilots and aircraft. Please pass the word, and have all interested pilots contact Chapter 40's Young Eagles coordinator **Alycia Herman** at 818-701-

Display Booth At Aviation Career Day

Friday April 20th EAA Chapter 40 will be having a display booth inside the Syncro hangar for Aviation Career Day. We will be using this booth to promote the Young Eagles event to be held the very next day on April 21st, passing out Young Eagles permission slips and talking about the program. We need to have volunteers staffing this booth on Friday. This will be an ideal volunteer task for Chapter 40 pilots' "significant others", and/or chapter 40 members who can't be on their feet for any period of time. Please come to the next Chapter meeting THIS Saturday March 17th to sign up for volunteer shifts staffing this booth.

EAA MERCHANDISE TRAILER

Once again, the EAA will be bringing the B-17 **merchandise trailer** along with the aircraft to Van Nuys. This allows visitors to bring home a souvenir or two, which spreads the word about the B-17, it's place in American history, promotes EAA and aviation in general. It's also an important source of revenue for the B-17 operation and for our chapter.

EAA shares the revenue from merchandise with the local chapters who provide staffing for the merchandise sales trailer. We'll need several volunteers to sell merchandise. Again, this is an *ideal* volunteer task for those who are not able to spend too much time on their feet, or those who don't have the specific aviation experience to be comfortable with active aircraft ground operations... but it is a vitally important task just the same.



Next Meeting March 17

This will be the last chapter meeting before the B-17 comes to town, and the B-17 event is happening on what would have been our April meeting day. Just in case you haven't guessed yet, this next meeting is critically important. You gotta be there! Yes, like this newsletter it will be mostly about the B-17 event.

Most importantly, we will sincerely need you to schedule two or more half-day shifts to volunteer on the B-17 event, whether for ground safety operations all days, Young Eagles on Saturday, merchandise sales all days, or Aviation Career Day on Friday.

In addition to the B-17, we will be having a speaker at this meeting. **Dave Voelkar** from the local FAA office will be giving a presentation about the rapidly changing FAR's and how they affect you. Without question, this will be a subject matter that every pilot is interested in.

The ability to fly your own aircraft in America is under *constant* threat from many angles. More so than ever before, all aviation people need to understand the rules and regulations, and take part in the regulatory process.

The time when a pilot could just rest easy at night knowing that their right to fly would still be there tomorrow **is gone**. From now on, pilots and aircraft owners will have to pay close attention to what's going on, and be prepared to take a much more active role in preserving our ability to fly. Don't miss this important presentation from the FAA's Dave Voelkar.



Favorable Decision From FAA Administrator

There was a lot of confusion recently about private sightseeing and passenger flights lately. At one point it appeared the FAA was imposing dramatically more restrictive rules on many types of sightseeing flights, which *would have had* serious implications on the B-17 being allowed to fly passengers and Young Eagles flights.

EAA President **Tom Poberezny** went to Washington to meet with the FAA Administrator and get a clarification. The EAA's B-17 tour and the EAA Young Eagles have been declared exempt from any new restrictions.

April Young Eagles Event

Even though there will be a major Young Eagles event on April 21st, the regularly scheduled Young Eagles event will still be taking place on April 28th. This is because we expect to have significant overflow from the previous weekend.

So please mark your calendars for the next THREE Young Eagles events, Saturday March 24th, Saturday April 21st, and Saturday April 28th.



Offer Your Friends and Family a Once in a Lifetime Experience!

Chapter 40 President **Charlie Ducat** has asked that each and every Chapter 40 member should help schedule one paid passenger flight in the B-17.

Think about it... in 2007, more than **sixty** years after the B-17 was a front line military aircraft, the idea that you can just buy an opportunity to fly in this aircraft and touch history is incredible. To this writer's knowledge you can't just go off and buy a ride in a **Sherman Tank**. You can't go out for a tropical cruise in a **PT boat** or crash through 20 foot seas in a WW2 vintage **destroyer**. I haven't seen any ads inviting tourists to submerge beneath the waves in a wartime submarine either.

But you *can* pony up a reasonable amount of money and take a half-hour flight in one of the greatest aircraft in world history, an icon that will take you back to a different time. You can taste the sights, sounds and vibrations that your dad or grand-dad knew a lifetime ago, during a time when the future of the world hung in the balance. You can fly in an airplane that (more than any other single piece of machinery) tipped that balance in favor of Democracy.

Please impress upon your friends that there is a fantastic , once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for them to experience something this incredible. For them, or for their kids, or for their grand-kids to touch history. Take the time to convince one person to help keep history alive, while becoming part of that history, by scheduling a ride in the B-17.



EAA Chapter 40
c/o Dave Kolstad
8860 Shoshone Ave
Northridge, CA 91325



The FlightLine

Newsletter Editor

Bill Berle victorbravo@sbcglobal.net 818-701-6801

Odds and Ends and Ads and Fads

ALSO, IN NON B-17 NEWS...

Chapter 40 member **Patrick Sunn** has put his Starduster Too project up for sale. Contact Patrick at 818-986-9593 or [psunndance \(at\) yahoo \(dot\) com](mailto:psunndance@yahoo.com)

The RV-9 project being built in our chapter hangar is coming along rapidly. Stop in and see how fast an enthusiastic chapter member can create a gorgeous sport aircraft!

