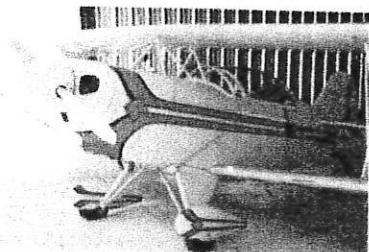


Experimental Aircraft Assoc.

Chapter 302 ~ Conroe, TX

EAA CHAPTER 302



SPRING FLING FLY IN

- Montgomery County Airport (CXO)
- Holley's Jet Center FBO

SATURDAY APRIL 26, 2003

FLY IN BREAKFAST—— THE MOST DELICIOUS SAUSAGE AND FLAPJACKS EVER!!

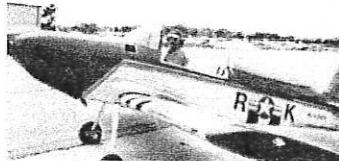
WIN A GARMIN PILOT III GPS

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PROJECT STATIC DISPLAYS

ANTIQUE AND CLASSIC AIRCRAFT
STORE BOUGHT AIRPLANES
FLYBYS
CLASSIC CARS
BURGERS FOR LUNCH!

COME JOIN US FOR A FULL DAY OF
AIRPLANE FUN



poster by *Butch Carr*



April 12th Meeting:

This month, we will be doing the final Fly-In preparation and planning.

All members received Fly-In raffle tickets by mail this month. We request you sell them or buy them yourself. Please bring the ticket stubs and money, or send to:

**Rosanne Oliver
142 Sky Way
Livingston, TX 77351**

Young Eagles ~ Share The Dream

And now a word from our President, Perry McConnell

Thoughts on Fundraising and (possibly) Fortuitous Events...

Trying to expand our meeting space, and to make it a place where members will gather more often, is a task that will almost certainly require: (1) more money than we have in our treasury; and (2) greater annual income than we have now. While I'm all in favor of grand proposals, and considering what we *might* do, reality requires that we also measure our resources and potential resources, to measure what we *can* do. I will not support, nor would I expect any of you to support, any proposal which would require an unreasonable commitment of Chapter resources, or which would stand to place us in financial jeopardy later.

Thus, the issue of fundraising, which in our case would seem to have limited sources, such as the aviation arms of the major oil companies, philanthropically-minded aviation engine manufacturers, and the like. However, there are other avenues we can approach, such as educational organizations which might be willing to support programs to give children more exposure to aviation.

By chance, Sunday's Courier carried a notice that there will be a free, three day seminar on "introduction to grant writing" in The Woodlands, April 10-12, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. According to the Courier, "[t]he class will focus on proposal development, the world of philanthropic giving, and researching foundations through databases, books, and software." The contact number for more information is 936-760-7057.

The course content sounds like information which would be helpful to us. Although I'm going to try to be there, my schedule is probably not going to let me take two full days away from the office right now. If any of you can make it, or if we can possibly work out a schedule to cover the full time by trading off on attendance, please let me know.

I hope see you all on the 12th. Until then, fly good.

Perry

Chicago Style Power Play

Chicago's Meigs Field destroyed in a cowardly nighttime raid!

Sneaking in under the cover of darkness, city of Chicago construction crews began tearing up the runway at Meigs Field March 31st at about 1:30 a.m. There was no advance warning, not even to the FAA. Some 16 aircraft are stranded on the field. A city source told the Chicago media that the "airport is closed for good" for "homeland security reasons."

Although increasing security was his stated goal, Daley has wanted the airfield converted into a park for some time. The mayor said a handshake deal he made with former Gov. George Ryan to keep the airport open for 25 years was dependent on action in Congress to secure O'Hare Airport expansion. Because that failed, the deal was off.

The move stunned Meigs backers, who believed the Ryan-Daley agreement was still in effect. "There's no logic," said Steve Whitney of Friends of Meigs Field. "They dug Xs into the runway all the way down." What's more, a number of small planes remained parked at the airfield, with no runway now to leave, he said, adding a taxiway might have to be used. "From our perspective, this is a pure and simple land grab."

The mayor acknowledged there were no specific security threats to Meigs, but insisted that closing the airport could someday help prevent a tragedy in which a terrorist aboard a small plane might slam into a high rise or big crowd downtown.

Since the Park District owns the land, city officials said they had the legal authority to shut down Meigs.

But proponents of keeping Meigs open called Daley's action an "abuse of power" and said, "It's clear he's using the anxious atmosphere of today to shut down Meigs and create a park."

Editorial Comment:

What can I say? Just because one has the legal authority to do something doesn't mean they should. Meigs is such a unique airport. It's right on the edge of downtown Chicago and allows for corporate jets and light planes to land almost downtown, then the people aboard can take a short cab ride to a meeting and easily be back in the air without all the hassle of O'Hare and Chicago tollways. Even Microsoft saw it as unique. They used Meigs as the startup location for their popular Flight Simulator game. What a tragic loss to Chicago and pilots everywhere.

Mom's wisdom; A message for Mayor Daley...

If there's something you can't do in the light of day, then you probably shouldn't do it at all.

See it for yourself from a web-cam at:

WWW.adlerplanetarium.org then click on Sky Cam and then Meigs.

SWRFI, plan to be there! May 16-17 (Fri-Sat) New Braunfels



We will have a Chapter 302 tent as a meeting place and reserved seating at the banquet. Talk to Jed Doggett or Don Brewer for the details. See www.swrfi.org and www.nbjumpin.com or (800)572-2626 for C.o.C.