

ground tour schedule if there is demand.

Flight Experience rides go KOSU to KOSU with no intermediate stops. People who sign up need to be on site at least 45 minutes in advance. Participants can sit



in every position on the plane except the pilot/copilot. Minimum number of participants for a flight is six and maximum is seven. The flight will be a low level "bomb run," of 1,000 to 2,000 AGL. Obviously, "crew"

must be physically able. Release forms are required for minors. Tickets are sold in advance through Oshkosh Headquarters or the day of the event, if available. Advanced reservations can be made by calling 800-FLY-NB17 (800-359-6217) or through the Web site www.b17.org. Cost is \$395 non-EAA members; \$350 for EAA members. (Note: the 6th EAA member participant is free on the same Flight Experience when bringing six paid member or non-member participants.

Ground Tours are \$5 for most visitors, \$10 per family, \$4 for students. Free for children under eight when with a paying adult. Tours are free for members of the 398th Bomber Group. And, of course, logo and non-logo merchandise will be available for purchase during the visit.

A little background on "Aluminum Overcast." It is a B17G-VE, serial number 44-85740 delivered to the Army Air Corps on May 18, 1945. It joined inventory too late to see action during World War II. It was purchased as surplus after the war for an incredible \$750 in 1946. Since then, it has flown over 1 million miles. It has been a cargo hauler, aerial mapping platform and in pest control and forest dusting applications. After a group began restoration work to return "Aluminum Overcast" to "combat readiness," it was sold to the EAA Aviation Foundation in 1983. Its vital statistics are impressive, even given today's Air Force inventory: • 103'9" wing span; • 74'4" length; • 19'1" height; • 50,000 lbs weight; • 100' turning radius; • 1,700 gallons (100 LL) fuel capacity; • 180 gph fuel consumption; • 37 gallons of oil per engine; 165 mph (143 kts) cruise.



Plan Ahead – EAA9's March meeting will be April 18, 2002 in the AeroLab. Begins 7:30 p.m.

Wetherald Weathers YE



A very cold and windy March 16 forced cancellation of Young Eagle flights. Nevertheless, Dick Wetherald helped the Scouts who showed up with information about weather as well as a preflighting aircraft.



Lessons can be learned even when the weather is not good enough for flight.

FAA Seminar Well Attended



FAA's Jerry Semler

A standing room only gathering of EAA9 members and area aviators for the March 21 FAA Safety Seminar sponsored by our Chapter. Jerry Semler, shown left, from the FAA's Dayton Flight Service Station was featured speaker along with FSDO staffer Jim Stokes. He covered the "Skyspotter Training Program. Bruce Butts introduced Explorer Post 2009 member Jonathan Gentile who recently passed his practical exam for his Private Pilot Certifi-

cate. Dick Wetherald spoke about the coming "Aluminum Overcast" visit this summer – and picked up several volunteers for the program. EAA9 also had materials and information available.



EAA9 provided information and membership materials for those attending the March 21 FAA Seminar.

SS Numbers on Phase Out

With identity theft a major problem, the FAA has decided to phase out use of Social Security numbers for pilots certificates. EAA says, "If you have a pilot's certificate and have not specifically told the FAA to remove your address, your information is vulnerable. Pilots can request a unique number by writing FAA, Airmen Certification Branch, AFS-760, PO Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125. EAA also advises going to the FAA Airmen database at <http://registry.faa.gov/default.asp>, click on the Airmen link near the top, then "Change Releasability Status of your Mailing Address." Send an email to the FAA (airmen@registry.jcabi.gov), include your full name, address, date of birth, and certificate number, plus the following: "Please remove my mailing address from the FAA open registry database." We have heard that eventually, FAA will change all pilot certificates to unique numbers.

Sport Aviation to Feature EAA9

We received notice that the feature story about EAA Chapter 9 is scheduled for the May issue of *Sport Aviation* magazine. While there is no guarantee it will appear then, keep an eye out. The article can be useful when talking to perspective members.



Check Our Website

Be sure to check our new Website at www.eaa9.org. We would like to hear your comments which you can send to President Harding at al@thentshop.com. Thanks to Craig Schneider for his work on this site.



EAA9 Meeting Features Aerobatics

Don't forget to mark April 18 on your EAA9 calendar. We gather 7:30 p.m. in the AeroLab lecture hall to learn about aerobatics from an International Aerobatic Club representative. We will also learn more about this summer B17 visit! We also expect to learn more about a proposal to close and sell-off Don Scott Field and EAA9's efforts to stop any move in that direction.

Explorers See Starduster Too

During Explorer Post 2009's meeting April 9, the unit was offered a Starduster Too.

Air Museum Discusses Grant

During the March Air Museum Committee meeting, a group has proposed a significant contribution toward building the new aviation historical research facility.

New Members...

Andrey Hale is a private pilot and lives near Bolton Field. **Mike Hayhurst** is building a Zodiac, lives in Clintonville, wants to work on his A&P mechanics rating, and is a private pilot. (Both joined following last month's EAA9's sponsored FAA Safety meeting.)



Ramp Check

Membership Meeting – April 18, 7:30 - 9 p.m., AeroLab. Subject: Aerobatic flying. We expect to have a representative from Chapter 34 of the International Aerobatic Club (IAC). The Columbus chapter sponsors an annual aerobatic competition at Bolton Field.

Wings Weekend 2002 - April 27, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., OSU Don Scott Airport. Sponsored by the Flight Standards district Office and Flight Education at OSU, this is part of the FAA's ongoing "Wings" program.

GlasAir Fly-In/Young Eagles Flights – May 18, 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., Union County Airport, Marysville. The GlasAir Fly-in runs May 17-19.

SAFECOM – May 8-18, OSU Airport. This is the annual national precision flying contest hosted by OSU.

Young Eagle Flight Rally schedule. We fly the third Saturday every month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at OSU Airport (weather permitting, of course). Dates for 2002 are: May 18 (Marysville), Jun 8 (National Young Eagles Day), July 20, Sept. 21, and Nov. 16. As of April 15, 772,910 Young Eagles have been flown nationwide.

Alan Harding
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Next EAA9 Chapter Gathering
April 18, 2002, 7:30 p.m.
Aerobatic Aviation
AeroLab, Don Scott Airport



EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION
CENTRAL OHIO - CHAPTER 9

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