



MARCH 2008



Members and guests listen intently to reps from PropWorks describing the finer points of care and feeding of propellers at our March meeting. *Foto- WSchulz*

**FEBRUARY MEETING** – Eighteen members and three visitors, attended last month's **EAA534** meeting and learned about spark plugs from a pointed, powerful Power Point (*sorry, cannot resist alliteration. Ed*) presentation with plenty of "spark" (*or puns*) by Champion Spark Plugs' Shane Rampy out of Liberty, SC. There



Refreshments, camaraderie, and something to exercise the brain... what else would you ask for on a Saturday morning? *Foto- WSchulz*

were hands-on cutaway spark plugs passed around to accompany the presentation on the science, care and feeding of these small but ever so vital marvels. Handouts included a slick aero-plug gauge, cowl stickers, and lots of company literature.

Being a good ol' Southern boy, Shane's down-home charm made

what could have been a "blah" subject quite interesting. Our thanks to Shane, our own Program Chairman, Paul Adrien, for the great meeting, and to Ed Cihoski for refreshments-- coffee, OJ, and a bunch of "lo-cal" (*oh, yeah!*) raised donuts. Grace Weber graciously tasked hubby John to bring and re-heat an it-wasn't-there-for-long breakfast casserole. Thanks, Grace!

**MARCH EXEC. COMM. MEETING** – **New Business:** March meeting-George Erickson has requested a sound system and a digital projector. Robert has priced some rentals. Sound system was \$60 and the projector was \$208.25. The board felt that this was too much to spend for a meeting. Paul was going to contact Mr. Erickson about simplifying the meeting and doing away with the equipment. • Paul will be contacting possible speakers again at Sun-n-Fun this year. • Bill Howard reported that Jack Rabon, Dave Fuller and Harris Wiese have not rejoined the chapter. • There will be a bus to Sun-n-Fun on Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>. Contact Sunair or Jake Kertz for more info. Price was said to be \$50.00 • Airman certificates will have to be converted to plastic instead of the paper certificates within the next 2 years. • There are hangars for rent at Gator field for \$70 per month. • Old time past member Joe Rawson has passed away.



Shane Rampy of Champion Spark Plugs explains all the numbers. *Foto- WSchulz*

Charlie sent an obit to Bill Schulz.

**Old Business:** It was felt that the chapter would bypass the festival at Umatilla during the weekend that Sun-n-Fun was going on as a large proportion of our active members would be there for the weekend. • A chapter project was discussed briefly and was tabled to be brought up at the general meeting this month. Respectfully, John H. Weber, Sec.

**MARCH MEETING -** Minnesota pilot (and snowbird) George Erickson writes: "George Erickson will be giving a Power Point presentation based on his best seller, *True North: Exploring the Great Wilderness by Bush Plane*, which is based on his forty summers of flying in northern Canada and Alaska. All who have seen it, locally, at aviation events from New Brunswick to LA and at his forums at AirVenture, say is 'FANTASTIC'- including Judie Betz of the Ocala Flyers, whom many of you know. George will be giving the presentation at no cost to the chapter. A book signing and CD sale will follow the presentation, with the proceeds going to the Young Eagles."

Erickson goes on to add, "**Please bring a friend so that others can enjoy the program - the more the better.**"

**PRESTON AVIATION TO LEAVE KLEE -** From Peggy Preston in response to the **EAA534** Newsletter Editor's attempt to verify rumor that Preston Aviation is due to leave the warm and friendly hometown atmosphere here at Leesburg Municipal Airport:

"Hey there... We aren't getting kicked out of here, we're leaving by choice. We were very lucky to find space here when we got kicked out of X55 by the (management)...the cowards never came and talked to us. We received a phone call while in CT that we had to be out...I'm sure you have heard all of that. We're ready to move on and have a great opportunity to work with Ron Alexander of Alexander Aviation in Griffin. We'll be based on a grass strip, working out of a Museum. We will also have his Waco to fly. Ron is a great guy. We're looking forward to it. *We don't get the visitors*

*here (KLEE) that we had elsewhere. No one drives in and no one flies in because of the tower, etc....* (emphasis added)

We do love what we do. Very lucky that way. It would be nice to make more \$\$\$ but that isn't always the answer...or (so) I tell myself!!! Thank you for the kind words. Hope to see you before we go. I was hoping to have a BBQ but I doubt if I'll have the time. Everyone wants to fly before we leave. We should do this more often!!! Feel free to mention our move in the newsletter. We are relocating to Peachstate Airport (GA2) in Williamson, Georgia, just 45 miles south of Atlanta. [www.peachstateaero.com](http://www.peachstateaero.com) They are recreating Atlanta's Chandler Airfield from the '20's and 30's with a Museum building that will hold a restoration workshop, library, static displays and restaurant. Grand opening set for 6/7/08. We will be the flight operations." (*Sorry to see you two go. Ed.*)

**SAD NEWS -** Joe Rawson, a long time member of EAA and EAA534 died Monday, February 25th. After retiring from the Air Force, Joe traveled the country installing cell phone towers. When he retired in central Florida he started building his dream airplane, the KR2. Joe was 72. (*from Charlie Schnitzlein*)

**UPCOMING MEETINGS -**

**APRIL -** Annual field trip by **EAA534** to Jim Kimball Enterprise's facilities in Zellwood to see what's new or being renewed in aviation at this world-renowned facility.

**FAA ISSUES FINAL RULE ON AIRMEN CERTIFICATE REPLACEMENTS - February 29, 2008** — The FAA this week issued a final rule that will require all pilots to replace their paper airmen certificate with a counterfeit-resistant plastic certificate by March 31, 2010. After that date paper pilot certificates may no longer be used to exercise piloting privileges. Three years after this date, certain other paper airmen certificates, such as those for flight engineers and mechanics, may no longer be used to exercise the privileges authorized by those certificates. Student pilot certificates, temporary certificates, and authorizations are not affected under this

rule.

These changes are in response to concerns raised in the FAA Drug Enforcement Assistance Act. The purpose of this rule is to upgrade the quality of data and documents to assist federal, state, and local agencies to enforce the nation's drug laws.

EAA has supported changes to more secure and counterfeit-proof certificates consistently since September 11, 2001.

EAA encourages its members to replace their paper certificates soon, keeping in mind there is currently a slight backlog at the Airmen Registry branch with many pilots seeking replacement certificates to comply with the new ICAO "English Proficient" endorsement requirement.

To make the replacement process as quick and easy as possible, the FAA has set up a system that allows certificate holders to request a replacement online at [http://www.faa.gov/licenses\\_certificates/](http://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/). The Airmen Certification Branch can be reached at 866-878-2498.

TAKE A LOOK! - Cockpit panorama AIRBUS A380  
<http://www.gillesvidal.com/blogpano/cockpit1.htm>

THIS 'N THAT BY OL' "WHAT'S HIS NAME" - • Kudos to



new president Robert Vaughn and his deft handling of the affairs of [EAA534](#). And, lest we forget, to his wife, Laura, for her occasional service as a most gracious stewardess... er, hostess. • Several months ago the CAP Building was outfitted with some really nice upholstered chairs to go along with the new paint, carpeting, and tiled floors. In January the chairs disappeared and we had our members and guests sitting on the floor for the meeting. February and still no chairs so there was a mad scramble by [EAA534](#) Secretary John Weber to bring in some of the Chapter's old steel folding chairs from his hangar. Do you think the airport manager

may have pawned them to help pay for the outrageous and extravagant squandering of city funds on the tower, tower staff, re-doing the ill-gotten CAP Building, etc. By the way, did anyone else see the recent WMFE expose' about the quarter-million a year costs to the taxpayers of the City of Leesburg for the operation of the airport on which they've so far recouped-- *in toto!* -- about \$25,000 in fees? I'm sure the locals must be thrilled down to the soles of their Nikes! "Leesburg International" indeed. How about "The Villages International?" And while they're at it, why not move it to the puckerbrush out in western Marion county? I've got a nominee for airport mangler... er, manager.

-- ITEMS FOR SALE --

**GPS- Lowrance 2000** Brand new. Never used but "played with" once. With original packaging. \$700. Also, a late **1800s Doctor's Buggy**. Restored. Contact Don Kosmin @ 352.326.5204

**Hangars** For Sale and For Rent at the Florida Flying Gator's Airpark. More information about our Airpark location can be found at this link: <http://www.flyinggators.com/news/hangars/hangars.htm>

*EAA534*

**CAP/EAA BLDG., LEESBURG, MUN. AIRPORT**

8507 Airport Blvd., Leesburg, FL

**MEETS- 9 A.M. 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday each month**

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