

J U N E 2 0 1 7

EAA Chapter 25

ON FINAL

MINNEAPOLIS/ ST PAUL, MN

“Flight Lines”

- from Mike York
EAA Chapter 25 President

The May meeting presentation was by Randy Schoephoerster with AirTrekNorth . Randy did an excellent job presenting what is involved to complete a BFR. Thank you Randy for your time and the excellent presentation at our meeting.

Warm weather flying season is upon us. Weekend fly-ins fill the calendar and promise opportunities to aviate and share the passion of aviation with others including Young Eagles. This year’s 25th anniversary of Young Eagles is an important milestone. EAA is also celebrating the 25th year of the Young Eagles program by holding a volunteer build of a Lockwood AirCam that will be used to give Young Eagle flights upon its completion. The build will occur during a set of one-week sessions, the first of which took place June 5-9 leading up to International Young Eagles Day. EAA is looking for volunteers to come to Oshkosh



to help with the build. This is another hands on building opportunity for chapter members.

Talking about building, the CH701 build group has started construction after moving the majority of the kit components to Reggie Roorda’s garage shop. The table was reworked and the kit inventoried. Construction of the horizontal stabilizer is underway. The build sessions are every Thursday night for those interested in stopping by to participate or observe. Contact Jeff Coffey or yours truly for more information.

At the last board of directors meeting, the board approved scholarship money for students attending Youth Initiative Aviation Academy (YIAA). YIAA is an academy conducted by the Youth Initiative Mentoring Academy. Our very own Mamie Singleton is a long term leader in this organization. YIAA is a non-profit organization which develops and conducts specially focused academies for at-risk youth, to develop competence, increase confidence and recognize potential through engaging them in educational and leadership training while receiving role modeling and mentoring from selected adult participants enrolled in the same focused academy. YIAA is doing good things for kids and aviation. We should all feel proud as members of Chapter 25 to provide scholarship opportunities to organizations such as YIAA. A link to this organizations website is below. <http://www.yima.us.com/home.html>

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Mike York P1

Mamie Singleton P2

John Schmidt P4

May Meeting Minutes P2

Kris Olson P4

For Sale/ Wanted P7

EAA Ch. 25 Minutes of the May 17, 2017 Chapter Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Mike York at 7pm at BSAEC, KLVN. Chapter member Greg Cardinal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Guests: Curt Erickson and son, Andrew. Don Ferry.
Treasurer's Report: None.

Young Eagles: Kris Olson. April canceled due to weather. The weather this Saturday is looking poor as well. September 23rd is International Girls in Aviation Day. Chapter 25 will probably provide YE rides at the event. Details are forthcoming.

Teaching Kids about Aviation: John Schmidt. John was interviewed by Al Malmberg for WCCO World of Aviation, airing on 5/19/17. Recording available at <http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/audio/world-of-aviation/>. John will also be teaching Intro to Aviation classes at Hill Murray this summer, details are on their website.

Social Event: Peter Denny. CAF hangar dance on June 10th. Big band. See Commemorative Air Force website. It would be good to make this a Chapter 25 social event. Dance lessons are available beforehand.

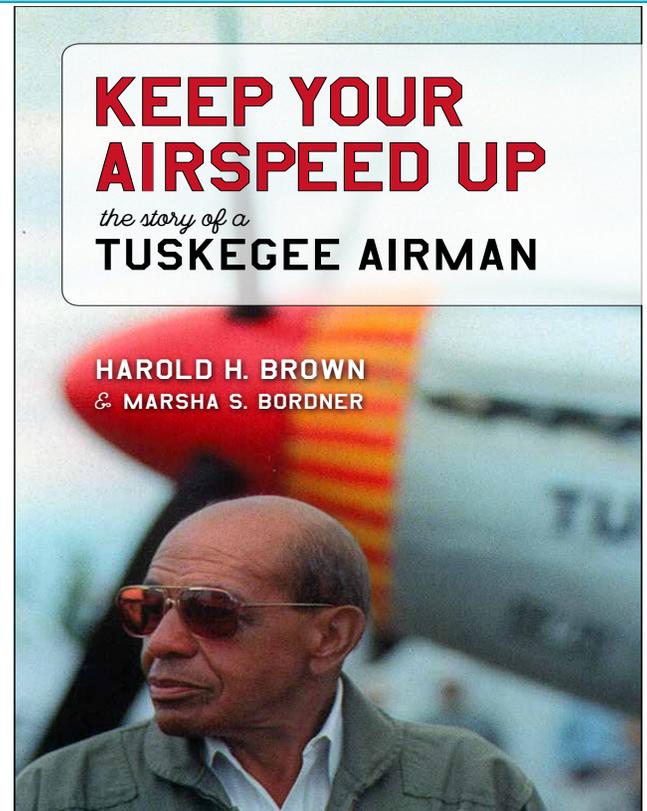
Zenith 701 Project: Jeff Coffey. Meet after the meeting tonight if you would like more info on the 701 project. Ownership shares are \$1000 plus estimated \$100/month for 24 months. All are welcome to the build sessions.

Propeller Balancer: Greg Cardinal demonstrated a propeller balancer made by Dale Johnson. It is available for member use.

Tuskegee Airmen Colonel Charles McGee: Mamie Singleton. Colonel McGee's memoir will be released soon. See Mamie for half price. The Colonel will be the keynote speaker on September 16th at Fleming Field and will sign books.

Program: Randy Schoephoester. Randy gave an in depth presentation on what is required and what to expect on a flight review.

Respectfully submitted,
Ned Lebens - Secretary



Shared by Mimie Singleton

Many Americans know little of the Tuskegee Airmen, the small group of black pilots and support staff who fought for the right to fly in World War II and whose success played a significant role in the integration of the military. Brown was one of the 930 original Tuskegee pilots. He is likely the last of his group to record his story.

The story is broken into three parts: The Early Years, The Wars Years, and The Post War Years. In Part I, Brown describes his family heritage and the journey his parents made North in what became known as the Great Migration. He also shares family stories that helped to shape the young Harold Brown and his brother Lawrence. It provides a picture of life in Minneapolis in the 1920s and 30s, where blacks were few, where segregation was minimal, and where Harold's "love affair" with a plane was nurtured.

In Part II, Brown describes those "three little years" during the war that came to define his life. He takes the reader South with himself as an eighteen year old who experiences overt racism for the first time, attends Tuskegee Institute, and finishes

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“Flight Lines”

This month’s presentation will be by Daryl LeMire out of the Bensen Airport. Daryl has been at Benson Airport all his life. He soloed there in a Cub in 1962. Daryl has a commercial ticket with Instrument rating ASEL and Sea. He has been a flight Instructor for 43 years and also an A&P with Inspector Authorization. Daryl has been an EAA member for many years and received the EAA Major Achievement Award at Oshkosh 1987. Daryl also received from the FAA the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award in 2014. In addition Daryl served as a helicopter mechanic for a year with the 101st Airborne in Viet Nam in 1969 and 70. Daryl’s presentation is titled “Practically Flying”. This month’s meeting promises to be another good evening of aviation education and comradery. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone there Wednesday June 21st.

*(continued from page 2)*

Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Life Story of Tuskegee Airman Harold H. Brown

flight training in May of 1944. The reader travels overseas with the newly minted 2nd Lieutenant and sees the war through the eyes of a combat fighter pilot. The young Harold Brown survives several near death experiences, lives through his time as a prisoner of war, and returns home at age twenty before he is able to legally vote or buy a beer. In Part III, Brown describes the next twenty years of his military service, including his time in Japan during the Korean War and his role in the Strategic Air Command; his career shift and rise in the two-year college system in Ohio; and concludes with the fame the Airmen achieved after the 1995 release of the HBO movie, *The Tuskegee Airmen*, which included receiving the Congressional Gold Medal in 2007. One of the most remarkable facts about the Tuskegee Airmen was that they achieved what they did even before the military was desegregated. President Truman ordered desegregation of the military in 1948; the order was implemented in 1949. The integration of the US armed forces was the first step in laying the groundwork for the civil rights movement that would ultimately result in equal opportunity, by law, for all Americans regardless of race.

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*June Young Eagles Update
By Kris Olson*

Chapter 25 cancelled the April 15th and May 20th Young Eagles rides due to weather. We have some groups and individual kids signed up for our Saturday, June 17th rides. We may have some groups come out for our July 15th and August 19th rides events. We are still coordinating those plans.

Upcoming Aviation Events

Saturday, June 17th EAA Chapter 25 Young Eagles
Airlake Airport

Saturday, June 24th from 1 to 4pm
Dedication of the Liz Strohfus Field
Faribault Municipal Airport see page 6

Saturday, September 16th YIMA Event
And Dr. Harold Brown location Fleming Field Terminal
1725 Henry Ave. South Saint Paul, MN.
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Some web sites to find local aviation events: <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/events/flyins-and-events.html> and <http://wisconsin.gov/Pages/doing-bus/aeronautics/trng-evnts/flyins.aspx>, click on a month to download the Wisconsin events calendar.

*Final Approach Trivia Quiz
By: John Schmidt*

The "Three Sea Hawks," "the Blue Lancers," and "the Suicide Trio" were all names at one time given to what current aviation group?

(Answer on page 7)

On Final

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Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Life Story of Tuskegee Airman Harold H. Brown

Finally, this book is a story of an African American—who through dedication to his goals and vision—rose through a blanket of racial segregation to great heights of accomplishment, not only as a military aviator but as an educator and human being.

Background on Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Life of a Tuskegee Airman

In the early decades of the twentieth century, it was believed that black men could not fly an airplane. They were simply not smart enough to manage the complex systems of combat aircraft. In fact, one 1925 Army War College Report, “The Employment of Negro Man Power in War,” claimed that blacks as a whole were lazy, undisciplined, and lacked leadership abilities. The report even notes that blacks were at the lowest level of the human species and had a smaller brain than whites.

During the 1930s and 1940s, these beliefs began to be challenged. As it became clear that America would likely be drawn into World War II, the military begrudgingly allowed for the development of a flight training program for a limited number of blacks on a segregated base in Tuskegee, Alabama.

Harold H. Brown was one of approximately 1,000 pilots trained at Tuskegee Army Air Field. An additional 14,000 support personnel provided the assistance necessary to run a military air base. Colonel Brown went overseas in the fall of 1944. He fought as a combat pilot with the 332nd Fighter Group. He crash-landed an airplane in Italy, parachuted out of another in Austria, and was a POW until he was liberated by Patton on April 29, 1945. He served in U.S. Air Force for 23 years. His latter years in the military were in the Strategic Air Command at Lockbourne AF Base in Columbus, Ohio. He was a SAC Controller during the Cuban Missile Crisis and during the Assassination of John F. Kennedy. When he left the military, he went on to a successful career in the

community college system in Ohio and retired as Dr. Brown from Columbus Technical College as Vice President of Academic Affairs.

Harold’s story, like those of other Tuskegee Airmen, remained largely unknown until 1995 when Bob Williams, a close friend of Harold’s, finally got his movie, *The Tuskegee Airmen*, produced. Other events, such as the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Tuskegee Airmen in 2007, brought this group of men farther into the limelight. By 2012, when George Lucas produced *Red Tails*, the Tuskegee Airmen had begun to be known in many circles around the United States and the globe as overlooked heroes of the war.

One of the most remarkable facts about the Tuskegee Airmen was that they achieved what they did even before the military was desegregated. Before that time, segregation was not just by tradition, but by law. The 1896 “separate but equal” doctrine stood throughout the war; the general belief was that equality could be achieved through separate facilities, separate equipment, and separate training. The problem, of course, was that nothing was ever equal. And yet these men not only persevered, but achieved equal or better results than their white counterparts.

The true significance of the African American pilots was more far-reaching than simply flying as well as their white counterparts. Their performance in combat set the stage for integration of American society, and laid the foundation for the civil rights movement that resulted in equal opportunity, by law, for all Americans regardless of race.

In August of 2017 the University of Alabama Press will release what is probably going to be the last autobiography of an original Tuskegee Airman: *Keep Your Airspeed Up: The Story of a Tuskegee Airman* by Harold H. Brown and Marsha S. Bordner. There are fewer than twenty pilots still living.

Harold met his future wife, Marsha Bordner, when she was a dean at Clark State Community College in Springfield, Ohio, and he was serving as Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs. After Dr. Bordner retired from Terra Community College as president in 2012, she began seriously working with Harold on this seminal text.

The City of Faribault and AAUW
American Association of University Women-Faribault Branch

Invite you to attend the dedication of the
Liz Wall Strohfus Field
at the
Faribault Municipal Airport on
Saturday, June 24, 2017 from 1 pm - 4 p.m.

A restored BT-13 airplane like Liz (Betty Wall)
Strohfus flew as a WASP is scheduled to fly-in.
Program at 2 p.m.

Come to honor the legacy of Liz Wall Strohfus
WWII Women's Airforce Service Pilot
Champion of Women Veterans
Friend to All

It's Official. Please come join the celebration to honor an American hero, our hero, Elizabeth "Betty Wall" Strohfus, WASP.

Mention is made of a restored BT-13 but at this time it is uncertain whether the Foundation's airplane will be at the dedication as it may already be on it's way to the WASP Museum in Sweetwater Texas. The Minnesota Wing of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF) has offered to fly their BT-13 in for the event, so we'll have to see if there will be one or two BT-13's on the ramp. The more, the merrier.

Stuff for Sale/Wanted

"Wanted: a partner in the building of a Murphy Rebel. This is a High wing, all metal plane with a gross weight capacity of 1650 lb. I can be contacted at 952-8884380 or rhoyt@ieee.org." Ron

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(Trivia Answer from page 4)
By John Schmidt

In 1928, the initial Navy flight demonstration team, flying Boeing F2B-1 biplanes, was dubbed 'The Three Seahawks.' Later, a San Francisco newspaper gave the group the moniker "Suicide Trio." The Navy's suggestion, 'Blue Lancers,' was not liked by the team, As the group prepared for a show in New York in July, 1946., Lt. Maurice "Wick" Wickendoll

came across an advertisement in the *New Yorker* for that city's famous Blue Angel nightclub. The first demonstration under the Blue Angels name was a show in Omaha, July 19, 1946.

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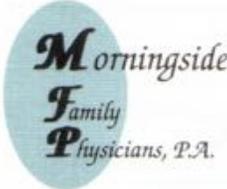
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