



# *The Flyer*

**Upcoming Events**  
National Biplane Ass'n Fly-In June 2-5 Junction City, Ks. 3JC. See You There!

June 11 Sat. Spirit of Flight antique airplane/car/cycle fly-in breakfast. Prizes for best in category. EIK Erie [www.spiritofflight.com](http://www.spiritofflight.com)

June 22-25 Thu-Sun. 36th Annual Sentimental Journey Piper Cub fly-in at Lock Haven, PA.

June 25 Sat. Longmont "Looking Back to the Future" Airport Day. 0700-1500.

July 9 Sat. Kelly Airpark Fly-In Breakfast 0700-1100

July 9 AAAofCO/LMO hangar pot luck 1100-1700.

## Antique Airplane Association of Colorado Volume 87 June 2011 Number 6

**AAA of Colorado June First Wednesday Meeting: June 1**  
**Guest Speaker: FAA FSDO Inspector, Chris Lang**, a long-time glider pilot and instructor, corporate pilot and former Alaska FAA Inspector with many tales to tell. He is the inspector who gave Joe and Peter Scherrer their check rides. His presentation will also cover the best ways to diplomatically deal with FAA inquiries...for those of you who may need guidance in that respect. It promises to be a very good evening. Leave your log books home and just enjoy his presentation. **Location:** D'Agostino's Mugg & Pye, 141 Main Street, Frederick, CO. Dinner 6:00 p.m., Meeting 7:00 p.m.



## Thoughts from the "Pres".....

(Submitted by his "Better Half")

Greetings from the Sutton household, where busy-ness reigns supreme, as always. Jim is down for the count with a cold tonight, and asked me (Gail) to write a few words for the newsletter. We have just finished (I count 90% as finished) an acre-size landscaping project which started last summer with us asking a landscaping design firm to draw up plans. Jim and I suddenly realized neither of us knew anything about which plants and trees and grasses and plants would go well together, and we also knew it was unlikely we'd take the time to study it and come up with a decent plan. So, brilliantly, we hired that part out, and once we had a drawn-up plan, it was just a matter of putting one foot in front of the other and moving forward with Step 1., Step 2, etc. Having a specific schematic to work from made it easier for the end result to turn out well. This last 8 weeks was a monumental effort by Jim and his cadre of workers who put in the sprinkler system, built raised vegetable beds, planted bushes, trees, plants, installed lights, replaced weary cement, etc....just in time for our daughter's graduation, which is tomorrow.

Congratulations, Bridget, on leaving the world of high school and home, and moving on to life's next phase, which will take place at the University of Oklahoma. We blinked and you grew up, and we will miss you tremendously. You were a joy to raise. And congratulations, Jim, on spearheading a massive landscaping project and doing it so well, as we would have predicted.

Three grandparents are in town now, in honor of Bridget's graduation. I marvel that our daughter has all 4 of her grandparents still alive and doing well, considering how old Jim and I were when we had her (37). All three grandparents who are visiting are in their 80's and are doing well, although slowed down and with minor issues.

This morning on my daily walk, I was reminded of the play, "Our Town" by Thornton Wilder. What I remember from seeing the play during my high school years is that we too often fail to see the beauty in our everyday lives....we are so busy moving on to the next project and pursuing our goals. I was reminded to slow down and take in the preciousness of having loving grandparents in town, seeing the fat robins on our newly laid sod, smelling the lilacs in bloom. We don't know

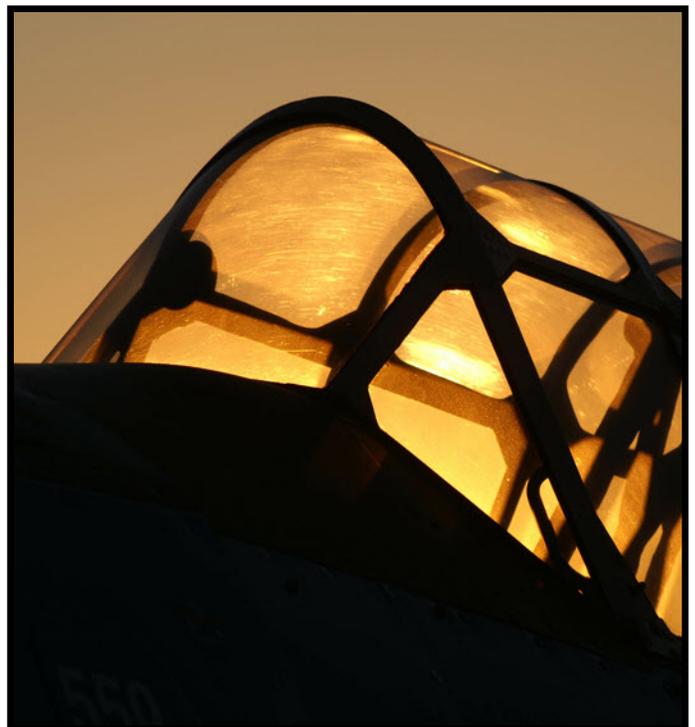


The number of days we will each be given, and thus it is important to take in the beauty of each one.

We remember the friends and family who are no longer with us, and we honor the many men and women who have sacrificed their lives for our country. May you all have a good and safe Memorial Day.

See you on Wednesday, June 1st.

Gail Sutton



## *From Behind the Power Curve.....*

The best laid plans of mice and men...again were squelched by Mother Nature. Does it seem to you that this year's weather has been very odd? Thanks to Andy Parks and the whole crew over at Platte Valley for sacrificing their Spring Fly In...to accommodate The AAA of Colorado plan. The grass runway at Antique Airfield provides an exceptionally enjoyable landing surface when it is dry. The mental image of all those WWI Fokker and SE 5 replicas landing along with the rest of the AAA of Colorado airplanes promised a great photographic opportunity. Unfortunately, the runway was far too wet and muddy to be safe. Gear up landings are sometimes the end result of attempted landings on a wet grass surface. Thanks to Jack Greiner for calling off the event and postponing it for another day. No sense in crying over milk under the bridge...there will be plenty of better flying days in the future.



Next up is the much anticipated Second Annual National Biplane Association Fly In at Junction City, Kansas June 2-5. Jim Clark, Waco owner and antique biplane devotee, has taken up the torch left by Charlie Harris down in Bartlesville. We all hoped someone would step forward and Jim is now pouring his soul into the continued effort to keep the tradition alive. He is determined to make this event exactly what the biplane aviators want it to be. Last year's event, the first under Jim's direction, was a terrific time with an old-time baseball game and beer garden BBQ. This year will be even better.

The aviators who prefer to remain next to their steeds by camping under the wing...(er..make that behind the lower wing)...will now find shower facilities available at the National Guard Armory right at the field. You can even pitch your tent inside the armory if you want to.

I hope many of you biplane fans will make the effort to attend. Bud Silvers will be flying his 1931 Fleet. Dave and Jeannie Allen will bring their Waco. Dan Dunning, who has a beautiful Stearman based at Front Range Airport, will head East on Thursday morning. I will launch at daybreak, after a hot shower and hot breakfast in my hangar, in my trusty Cub.

EAA Chapter 1364, Junction City, Kansas presents:

# The 2011 NATIONAL BIPLANE FLY IN

A Celebration of Antique, Vintage and Modern Biplanes

**Thursday, June 2nd thru Sunday, June 5th**

**3JC Junction City, Kansas**

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**TURF 13/31, 1915' x 150' & 5/23, 1927' x 150' Asphalt 18/36, 3495' x 75'**

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**Saturday Morning Pancakes** 

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Dinner, Drinks and Duelling Planes  
Plenty of singing, laughing and "There I was" stories. 

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Talk to each other  
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# GENE'S PICKS

## CAN YOU IDENTIFY THIS AIRCRAFT?



### **May's Mystery Airplane was the Fairchild Model 91 Amphibian:**

In designing a replacement for Pan American Airway's aging Sikorsky S-38, Fairchild produced one of the most aerodynamically clean and refined seaplanes of the Golden Era, their model 91. Pan American ordered six, but after the first Model 91 was delivered over a year late, during which needs had changed, Pan American canceled four of the original order. Pan American's subsidiary, Panair do Brasil, operated two of the 91s which, following Pan American's traditional and efficient amphibians, were built including the prototype. (Pictured) The first Model 91 flew on April 5, 1935.

Notice the retracted wing floats, later made non retractable. With 8 passengers, 800 lbs of cargo and 180 gallons of fuel it had a range of 700 miles and weighed slightly over 5 tons gross weight.

A wide aisle and single row seating on each side was a comfortable cabin arrangement for passengers. It even had a chemical dry toilet lavatory in the rear of the cabin.

The engine was a P&W R-1690 of 750 hp with a cruising speed at 70% power at 15,000 ft of 158 mph. It landed at 62 mph and had a service ceiling of 17,000 ft. Useful load was 3,903 lbs.

Another great design that never fulfilled its potential.

*(Words and photo from Skyways Magazine of April, 2008)*



**Gene Horsman**  
**Aviation Historian**

## Calendar of upcoming events 2011

Every Wednesday the Colorado Pilot's Association has a lunch fly-out (and we can't muster one a year) decided on the night before, to a not-too-far-away airport destination. Arrival time is the same for all, usually 11:30 a.m., so the slow airplanes can get a head start. If you are in a Pietenpol, you may still beat a Staggerwing to lunch. If the weather turns bad, there is always another lunch fly-out the following Wednesday. Walter Bell, Meteorologist and pilot, makes the decision the Tuesday night before and sends out a notice to those aviators who enjoy some fun flying to different airports. If you would like to join in, contact Walter Bell at 303-886-4575 or bellw@ix.netcom.com

**June 2-5 Thursday-Sunday Second Annual National Biplane Convention. Freeman Field, Junction City, KS (3JC). "A Celebration of Antique, Vintage and Modern Biplanes." Last year was terrific! This year will be even better with additional amenities. Grass runways and Biplanes! No jabbering announcers over loud speakers....talk to each other. No air shows. Just watch biplanes landing on grass. RV and tent camping with hot showers and good food. Inexpensive hotels with on-demand shuttle service. www.nationalbiplaneflyin.com Jim Clark 785-210-7500. (390 nm from LMO...360 from FTG). See you there!**

**June 11 Sat. Spirit of Flight Center Car Show/Fly-In Erie EIK. Pancake Breakfast. Prizes for the best car/motorcycle/airplane. \$5 admission or free if you bring a show car/motorcycle/airplane. www.spiritofflight.com.**

**June 22-25 Thursday-Sunday 26th Annual Sentimental Journey Piper Cub Fly-In. Lock Haven, PA. LHV. You don't have to be a Cub flyer to attend...but if you don't bring your Cub here at least once...you still won't ever be a "real" Cub flyer. www.sentimentaljourneyflyin.com**

**June 25 Sat. Longmont Airport "Looking Back to the Future" EXPO 2011 Breakfast 0700- until 3:00 p.m. AAA of CO might have a booth there TBA. If you want to volunteer call Jim Sutton 303-775-1690.**

**July 9 Saturday Kelly Airpark CPA Fly-In Pancake Breakfast CO15 0700-1100 (bring tie-downs) Unicom 123.05 For more info: Carl and Carol Gross 303-648-3479 or Frank and Lynn Nichus 303-648-3461. www.kellyairpark.com AWOS 303-648-3479 or 134.375 Mhz. Check out Dave and Jeannie Allan's Waco Biplane progress....it's a beauty!**

**July 9 Sat...same day as the Kelly Air Park fly-in. AAAof CO/Longmont Airport Hangar Owners Fly-In Pot Luck lunch. 1100- until when the thunderstorm hits and we all run for cover. Host: J.D. Gleitz. Location: Hangar on South side where all the people have gathered. (Turn in by the "emissions check" building). Please bring your favorite side dish...and an umbrella for the burger flippers. No First AAAof CO meeting in July. ...Or September either.**

**July 23 Sat. Third Annual Spirit of Flight Day Erie EIK 10:00-4:00 p.m. Fly-bys, Cars, Vendors, museum tour \$5 admission.**

**July 25-31 Oshkosh! Are you going? Have a seat available? www.airventure.org The Biggest Air Event of the Year! See you there!**

**August 20 Sat. Front Range 7th Annual Classic-Antique Airplane and Car Show! Pancake and Sausage Breakfast. Last year over 500 collectable cars attended. Like old airplanes? Need a Ferrari? C'mon out! www.ftg-airport.com (It's also a free prostrate screening event...optional, of course!)**

**August 26-27 Friday-Sunday. Antique Airplane Association of Nebraska Minden Fly-In. This event has become mandatory as it is right on the way to Blakesburg and timed so we can attend both events on the same flight. Our good friends in Nebraska know how to hold a great fly-in! Visit the Pioneer Museum, best described as "The Smithsonian of the Prairie". I'd bet Georg Becker has been there!**

**August 27-28 Colorado Sport Airshow Metro (BJC)**

**August 31-September 5 Wednesday-Monday. BLAKESBURG! “Mecca” for all of us! Life begins at forty! Celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the first AAA fly-in at Blakesburg. This year features Monocoupe aircraft....Ever get “Monocoupe Fever”? Me too! [www.antiqueairfield.com](http://www.antiqueairfield.com)**

**September 10 Sat. National Radial Engine EXPO. Akron, CO AKO. Bring your radial-engined airplane out for others to see. Colorado Plains Airport Akron AKO. [www.nree.net](http://www.nree.net) 800-945-0161.**

**September 24 Sat. AAA of Colorado Fall Pot-Luck Fly-In. Details TBA.**

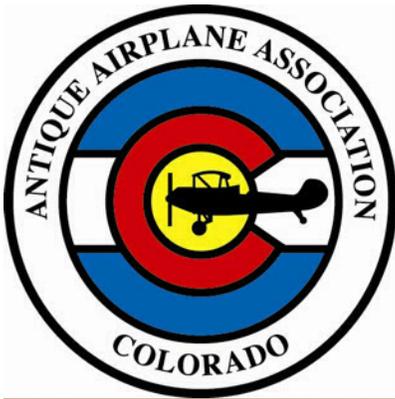
**September 29-October 2 Thursday-Sunday Forty-First International Cessna 195 Convention. Lee’s Summit , Mo. KLXT with a fly-out to Branson.**

**October 5 AAA of CO First Wed. meeting TBA.**

**October 16 Sunday Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame Banquet. On behalf of the Colorado Aviation Historical Society (CAHS) chaired by Dave “Doc” Callendar, an antique aviation icon and caretaker of a very rare Harlow PJC-2, the AAA of CO is invited to be an exhibitor at this year’s event. The banquet will not be held in or near Boulder county, but rather at the Wings over the Rockies Air and Space Museum. Further details to be announced.**

**November 2 AAA of CO First Wed. Meeting TBA. Will we follow the bylaws and have an election this year? Stay tuned for the answer.**





# First Class



AAA of Colorado, Inc.

5557 Aspen Ave.

Erie, Colorado 80516

The purpose of the AAA of Colorado is to promote the preservation and flying of the antique and classic airplanes and other flying machines. Also to encourage young people to become interested in flying old aircraft. Any communication issued by the AAA of Colorado, regardless of the format and/or media used is presented only in the context of a clearing house of ideas, opinions and personal experience accounts. The AAA of Colorado does not project or accept responsibility of participation by any member or newsletter reader at any fly-in function or event that may be publicized in this newsletter. Any ideas or opinions presented in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those officially held by the Association.

**Please submit any stories and photos, classified ads, complaints, or suggestions to [oldowl@aol.com](mailto:oldowl@aol.com)**

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