

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 430

Serving Sequim, Port Angeles and the Northern Olympic Peninsula.

# A Little Hangar Flying: Getting There is Half the Fun and New Runways



Can't let the clients get their feet wet!

#### Getting there is half the Fun!



Here is my First Landing in the Skewentna Canyon "Cable" Crossing. Cable???? Where's the cable??? One way in, One way out!!! Land up river, takeoff downriver.

This place is a special checkout. (I didn't get a check out. I checked myself out). Note: I was

authorized to go anywhere in the State. Not for the faint of heart as one new pilot exclaimed!

The water is moving at the drop off point so fast there is no coming off the step and shutting down until you are abeam the place the guys standing in the water can catch you. When you get ready to go you start the engine, you have to be ready to get turned out into the current, flaps at Takeoff, water rudders down, nod your head with eye contact with guys standing water, start engine, the guys release you into the current as the prop turns, left turn down the river turning, adding full power, pulling water rudders up and on the step, accelerate, roll a float, lift off level off and accelerate pumping the flaps up to climb flaps... slowly. Do that four times a day. Ha!

Did I say there is a 200-foot rock cliff in front of you about three beaver lengths ahead in the turn!!!

Had to land on Puntilla Lake, Rainy Pass Lodge Summer Strip. The Lake had severe water overflow on top of the ice.



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Stop short, unload and takeoff straight ahead. Perfect planning.

### **New Runways**

Any where, any time you go to a new or unfamiliar runway it's a good idea to check out the area and brief yourself. I always ask someone who has been there if there is anything special about the airport as part of briefing myself. Sequim Valley has trees on the East end that are in the path of the runway. Diamond Point is narrow and has severe downdrafts in windy conditions. It's really busy at Harvey Field. Ha! South Whidbey or Langley is nestled in the trees and very narrow and is one way in to the North out to the South, since there are 150 foot trees to the North.

If you can't find anyone who has been to the new place recently, find out as much as you can before you launch. Some things to use to help brief yourself are MAPS. Yes! Maps!! Those are paper things we used before the EFIS Electrical moving maps and GPS's came out.

Many times during my flying career in Alaska, and around the world, I got tasked to go to places no one had ever been. Most of my time in Alaska there wasn't a runway, never was a runway and never gonna be a runway. Sometimes I found myself in places that I had only myself to figure out what to do and make good safe decisions.

One time in the 747, in the middle of the night when everyone was tired, the Russians just turned off the radio beacons we were going to use to make the approach to landing. The Copilot was frozen up and the Flight Engineer was just finishing up the LA times. We had to land. We were out of fuel.

When I come to a new place or even a place I have been to four times that day I always look over the Lake, River, Strip or Sand Bar and figure how to get in and get out. As an example,

an airplane on floats can land in a lake you can not get out of. Make sure you have a way out. One time a client gave me coordinates to the wrong place. The weather was low and raining. I knew the area really well. I knew there were not any cabins on the lake with coordinates that I was given. But the cabin wasn't on the lake proper. The cabin was in the woods, some ways from the lake. Still I landed only after I knew I could get out of the lake. No one was there so I went to another lake nearby and sure enough, there he was. Thing is, I had landed at the other lake. I was told there was a four wheeler under a blue tarp. There was a blue tarp on the wrong lake in the proper place too. How does that happen? He was glad to see me -- big smile as he climbed in and off we went.

I had one time landed at a small lake up around Galena, Alaska, near the Yukon river. This client had read a book about how good the Arctic Grayling fishing was and chartered us to take him there. No one had ever been there. (I found out later). Ha! The lake was a Cub (ie., PA-18) lake not really a Beaver Lake... The guy that wrote the book just said there was a lake there and you land at the lake and portage your gear to the creek. Simple, huh? Crazy Alaskans.

I told the client, if I land, you're going down the river cause you're not getting back in the airplane to fly out. Even in the Beaver it was almost too short for my weight and performance. I used the whole short lake to get off. Oh, and it was so small there was no chance of a Step Turn Takeoff -- a highly skilled technique used in short lakes.

Good thing about the Tundra is, there are NO TREES to climb over. Not to mention the wind was blowing really good. How much did I make it out of there by? Well, if I had forgotten to bring the water rudders up I would have hit them on the tundra on departure.

Another pilot friend of mine went to a lake to land and kick some guys out that were going to kayak down the Happy River in the Alaska

Range. Stu the pilot tells the kayakers, "If I land, you're going down the river to get home." There's a cabin on the lake – a small warm up cabin. Long time Alaska Big Game Guide "Bucky" owns the cabin. Bucky was there at the time. Stu lands and kicks the guys out. Bucky is standing there on the lake shore drinking a cup of coffee. Stu asks him if there was a problem with him landing here. "NOPE" says Bucky, "I came out cause I couldn't believe my ears when I heard your airplane overhead getting ready to land. No one ever has landed here. I just came out because I wanted to see if your going to make it in and out in one piece. The lake water level is the highest its ever been." At the time Bucky had been The Hunting Guide in the area for 50+ years. Ha-ha, now they go in by helicopter... does that tell ya anything?

The guys kayaked the river which was a first. Stu had looked it over really well before committing. But still it was a less than marginal operation, even though Stu was a highly skilled Alaskan Bush Pilot.

On skis you can land on lakes that are so rough they can rip your gear off. You have to look things over. The midday "Flat Light" can get you in real trouble. Saw a crash at Puntilla Lake by an Air Taxi pilot, during one Iditarod. The wind-driven snow bumps literally ripped the gear off the C-185. Ending up cartwheeling the airplane. Everyone was ok, but the runway was 100 yards away. He didn't look the place over very well or he would have seen it. That goes for runways or no runways.

The snow can be sticky; when it is sticky you can get stopped but can't takeoff. Or the snow can be the consistency of sugar, with No Bottom; you sink out of sight. Next thing you know you're up to the wings in snow. Seen it happen. Ha, we threw out supplies (which is to say beer) to the guy that landed there. Bad part about the throwing out supplies...the supplies went through the snow to the lake ice below and skidded along the ice. They tied red Surveyors

tape to the beer but it was real hard to find. He had to pack a runway with snow shoes and let it set up overnight to get out the next day. So there are hazards you may not know about or see. Be careful wherever you go and don't take anything for granted.

On wheels it's almost the same as skis. The runway from the air looks smooth but may not be. Look it over from different angles.

Oh, and if it is a RUNWAY, "RUNWAYS" have numbers on them. If it doesn't have NUMBERS on it, two things: it's not a runway, it's a landing strip; OR it's a taxiway. Someone we all know just did that! His initials are Harrison Ford -- a pretty good pilot.

If the landing strip is short, its wise to practice a few landings at your landing weight and be able to touch down where you want. Accomplish that on a runway that is nice and long. Make a few full stop landings until you got it right. Remember, some places you only get one chance to get it right.

I see so many pilots landing half way down the runway. Remember the old saying? Things of no use to a pilot? One is runway behind you. That applies to landing also.

The wind is always hard to judge. Look for the wind sock on the field; it may be just a piece of tape tied to a tree. Use what is available, look OUTSIDE the cockpit to judge the wind when you are approaching the area. Look and see if there is smoke coming out of a chimney or wind on the water; both are a big help. Look at the trees, look at the tall grass, use anything that may help.

If you have a GPS look at the Ground Speed on approach: you will know if you have a tail wind or not on approach to the airport. If you have a tail wind, adjust your choice of the runway to use. Do like the birds do! Land into the wind. A 10,000-foot runway is short if you use the last

200 feet of it. Remember that! I have seen so many people use the down wind runway which is fine, but if there is a preferred runway at the airport and the other pilots are using that runway don't come in on the downwind runway between the other airplanes. If you're the only one around do what you want, but be careful.

If the runway is grass and its WET, it will take one and a half the normal distance to stop after your wheels contact the grass. Know your airplane performance parameters.

We also have a new President going to different places with Air Force One. Just the other day there were 7 violations and intercepts by F-16's of small airplanes going thru TFR's in Florida. There are some great flight planning Apps now for us to use. Almost(!!!!!!) taking the place of maps. Are your maps current in the plane????

Use everything at your disposal. These laptop, iPad apps for maps and navigation, etc. are great. One is Foreflight. A great thing about Foreflight is that before we go "commit aviation" we can pretty well brief ourselves. Find the TFR's and avoid them, or we can see who is the controlling agency and get permission thru the TFR by contacting that controlling agency before we get there, by use of a radio. Ask and get a squawk code. We can get the up to date weather, runway information, communication information, ATIS or AWOS. All kinds of information on these devices. Fly one trip around the USA and they are worth every penny.

I also still use current maps when I fly cross country. Yes, I use maps. I draw lines on them and my kids can see where we are and if there is anything cool to see out the window.

In Alaska and the Lower 48, I love my GPS. I have the whole State of Alaska Topographic uploaded in my Garmin 496. It doesn't really take the place of maps but it sure is nice to use when your down low flying and don't have the advantage of altitude. If I am coming in low due

to weather I can find the general area where the runway, lake or creek are located. Many times it's low clouds but great visibility. Again I don't fly if I can't see. I'm VFR. I stay that way. If it gets so bad I turn around go back or land and wait out the weather. You can do that if your airplane is on floats. Wheels not so much. Except in the Lower 48 there are runways everywhere.

If you're on skis it's to darn cold to land and wait out the weather, unless you know of a lodge that has the coffee on. Which I do and they usually have cookies or brownies! They love the local Bush Pilot coming in and saying hello. The Lodge guests really love it. They get to see a Bush Pilot. It really is true: there are Old Pilots and Bold Pilots but no Old Bold Pilots.

One last thing if you're flying floats or a haul amphibious airplane. You looked the area over good. Looks long enough the wind is right, no rocks, no debris in the lake or river. In rivers, the debris you get in trouble with is up stream of your intended landing area. Why? Because the junk will be in your landing area soon. But something looks peculiar? The seagulls are standing on the water! What are you going to do? I'll say that again: the seagulls are standing on water and you can see their legs. That means the water is only an inch deep.

Fly safe. Always have plenty of fuel. Remember, an outstanding approach is a small price to pay when the alternative is a smoking hole in the ground!

A Superior Pilot is a Pilot who uses his superior knowledge to keep him out of situations where he has to use his superior skills.

Fly safe everyone and be careful.

Mike Radford

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<sup>\*</sup>Phones area code 360 unless otherwise noted

# On the Horizon: Calendar of Events

EAA Chapter 430 meets on the last Saturday of the month, in Hangar 10 at Sequim Valley Airport at 10:00 a.m. For directions and additional information about chapter programs, see the chapter website: <a href="http://www.eaa430.org">http://www.eaa430.org</a>

Date	Topic
Monthly Chapter meeting March 25, 2017 10:00 a.m. Hangar 10 Sequim Valley airport	John Fredrickson, a volunteer at the Boeing Archives, will talk about North American Aviation during WWII. His talk will emphasize some of the individual personalities involved in North American, and will cover the P-51, B-25 and AT-6, including mention of the only B-25 with Pratt & Whitney R2800 engine installation.
March 28, 2017 1:00 PM	Disaster Aviation Response Team meeting at Clallam County Courthouse, Port Angeles. All pilots invited. Contact Alan Barnard: abarnard@olypen.com
Monthly Chapter meeting April 29, 2017 10:00 a.m.  Hangar 10 Sequim Valley airport  June 10, 2017 0830-1500	Program on National Air Races by Mike Lavelle (rescheduled from March meeting).  Chapter Fly-Out to Skagit/Bayview (KBVS) and Heritage Flight Museum. See February

## **BasicMed for Flying to Canada?**

From AvWeb 3/13/2017 by Russ Niles

AOPA President Mark Baker has written the aviation authorities of three countries whose airspace borders the U.S. asking that they accept new BasicMed medical requirements that will cover some private pilots. BasicMed goes into effect in May 1 and is expected to be adopted by many U.S. pilots but Canada, Mexico and the Bahamas don't have parallel regulations so BasicMed pilots will not be able to fly in those countries. "Many of our members continue to contact us hoping to visit the Bahamas under these new rules," Baker said in the letter to the Bahamian Ministry of Transport and Aviation. All three countries require an ICAO-recognized third class medical and BasicMed will not be approved by ICAO. Canada has a Category 4 medical that shares some of the features of BasicMed, including the family doctor declaration, but is much more restrictive in terms of aircraft type and operation. It is not recognized by the U.S. or ICAO.

Baker is appealing to the leading officials of the three countries to "officially recognize" BasicMed to allow holders to exercise their U.S. privileges on visits. While Baker doesn't ask the other jurisdictions to adopt a BasicMed system themselves, he does list its selling points. "The new law was enacted by Congress because it reduces costs, bureaucracy, and most importantly maintains safety," Baker wrote in the letter to Transport Canada.

# Lycoming Rolls Back Prices On Engine Parts. A lot.

By Paul Bertorelli, March 12, 2017

With little fanfare, Lycoming has dramatically rolled back prices on major engine parts, including crankcases and crankshafts. The price reductions on some parts are as much as 70

percent, according to the company, and have reset overhaul decisions for many owners who may have unserviceable cranks or cases.

Heretofore, those replacement parts would have been drawn from the overhaul or repair pool and owners would have been charged accordingly. Now owners can opt for new crankcases and crankshafts at prices comparable to what they might have expected to pay for repaired parts.



Lycoming's Steve Palmatier said that the company routinely reviews production costs and selling prices on all of its parts and determined that it could boost parts sales by drastically reducing prices. One way they did this was to unbundle crankcase sales. The company once sold crankcases only as kits, which included such accessories as through bolts and spacers.

"A lot of shops don't want those parts," says Palmatier, so the company broke the package into discrete parts. Prices vary by part, but as an example, one case—an IO-360 with flat tappets—was dropped from \$17,501.63 to \$4979.65, a decrease of a whopping 72 percent.

These price decreases have already rippled through the industry. "Just overnight, the industry lost about a million dollars on that deal," says L.J. Warren, president of Zephyr Aircraft Engines in Zephyr Hills, Florida. Many shops maintain inventory of repaired cases and crankshafts for Lycoming engines and now new

parts sell for only a few hundred dollars more than the repaired parts do. Other shops told us owners who don't have serviceable cases and cranks are opting for the new parts.

Could Lycoming's price reductions portend 70 percent cheaper aircraft engines? Not likely, Palmatier said. The rollbacks apply only to select products. Although Continental's purchase of ECI in 2015 changed the competitive landscape for Lycoming on many parts, the company says the price rollbacks were in response to internal cost and sales reviews.

# Wings of Freedom B-17 and B-24 Coming to Port Angeles in June

By Alan Barnard

I have been requesting and finally received confirmation that I will be again be bringing the Colling's Foundation Wings of Freedom tour to Port Angeles on June 21-23. I will need the usual help such as putting posters out and event security volunteers. This is the premier airport attraction for the last 15 years or so and this year should be no exception. Please plan to attend and help out if you can. My contact information is included below.



Alan Barnard Wings of Freedom Stop Coordinator abarnard@olypen.com

#### **Available from our Members**

### Garmin color GPSmap 295

Vern Sprague has a new GPS Garmin 295 for sale. Value \$360. Phone 360-683-7571 dollyvern@olypen.com

### Sky Raider Kit for sale

Mel Rudin writes:

Bill Hancock was one of the early members of 430. He was building the Sky Raider for his personal fun plane. Unfortunately he died before he was able to complete the project. His widow, Sylvia, would like to get the use of her garage back; consequently she would like to find a good home for the project.

The Sky Raider is a single place, high wing, tail dragger that looks like a small Piper Cub. The fuselage is steel tube with aluminum longerons. The wing has two aluminum spars with wood ribs. All framing construction is complete; and all fabric and finishing components are stored with the kit. What remains to be completed is the cabin floor, instrument panel, selection of instruments and an engine with accessories. The engine that is currently with the kit is a Rotax 277. It is out of production. The best option is a Rotax 477 which is in production and was a recommended option for the kit.

I will be glad to take any interested parties over to see the project. Sylvia doesn't want a crowd so we'll do it in 2s and 3s. Contact Mel Rudin at rudin@olypen.com

**Aircraft hangars for sale** at the Port Angeles Airport. Newer, well built. Now just \$31,000 each. Call for brochure or more information. Alan Barnard, Windermere 360-461-0175

**Large T Hangar for rent** at Diamond Point Airport. \$200.00/month.

George Llewellyn 360-477-8180



Lancair 235, O-235 LCE2 engine, aircraft 275 hrs since new & SMOH, hangared in Port Angeles. All electric instruments; no vacuum pump. Wooden cruise prop. A good airplane that cruises at 156 kts on 6.5 gallons per hour. 32 gallon fuel. Contact Bill Bartlett for more information at wtbartlett@msn.com

## EAA Chapter 430 Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 2/18/2017 Location: W28 Hangar #10

Meeting:

- Open with the of Pledge Allegiance:
- Introduction of Guests.
- Minutes published in the newsletter. Approved.
- Comments:
  - Special Announcement from Alan Barnard. Alan gave a presentation on the formation of the CLALLAM COUNTY AVIATION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM. A Development meeting is scheduled for March 28 at 1300 in the Clallam County courthouse basement. If you are interested please contact Alan Barnard at 360-461-0175 or <a href="mailto:abarnard@olypen.com">abarnard@olypen.com</a>
  - Board meetings are open to all members and held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month 3/10 0900 at Mariners Café
  - o Scholarship: <u>Dave Miller A big THANK YOU to CCPA for their generous donation of</u> 1500 dollars to the Scholarship Fund.
  - Young Eagle Announcements: John Meyer suggested 4 dates for rallies in May, June, August, September
  - o Tech Advisor Reports: None
  - Activities Update by Paul Kuntz:
    - There is a planned fly-out to Skagit/Bayview (KBVS) on June 10th, 2017.
    - Museum admission is \$12/adults, \$10 seniors.
    - Visit the Heritage Flight Museum, which houses the warbird collection assembled by Apollo astronaut Bill Anders.
    - Watch the flying some of the collection that day.
    - Plan for the day

- o Meet at W28 at 0830 for head count and briefing,
- o Fly to Bayview (30-min flight), park at the terminal for breakfast.
- After breakfast, walk or taxi to the museum at the southwest end of runway 04-22, parking on the cargo ramp north of the museum.
- We will depart for W28 or your home airport after the flying wraps up at 1500.
- Project Reports: by members.
- Next meeting will be March 25<sup>th</sup> 1000 W28 at Hangar #10
  - O NEED ----Raffle Manager: to run the 50/50
  - o NEED ---- Web / Newsletter:
  - o NEED ---- Activities Chair

## **Social Meeting and Presentation:**

Programs: Paul Kuntz introduced Keith McMinn on Antarctic Operations in an AF C-17. It was a fascinating, informative and factual account of the missions flown to Antarctica.

Meeting adjourned at 1200.

PS: Chapter Surveys emailed on 2/19/2017. If you have not yet replied with your data, please do so. We need your EAA number.

Note: General Membership meeting minutes are now included in the monthly Newsletter. Minutes of the monthly Board meeting are also available to chapter members via login at the *Members only* page of the chapter website: <a href="http://www.eaa430.org">http://www.eaa430.org</a>

If you are a chapter member and do not yet have a login to the Members page, you can register with your email address to create a login at the website.

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