

June 7 – 10, 2018

Annual meeting in St. Louis with a long line up of events.

Late September, 2018

Los Alamos, New Mexico

Learn about where WWII ended.

Jan Hoynacki promises you won't glow in the dark, after this tour!

The USPA motto is "Having Fun with Your Airplane".

SCHOLARSHIP:

Bob Ryder, Chairman:

No new activity at this time thus nothing to report.

FLY-INS:

Andy Anderson produces an excellent list of aviation events which he disseminates by email on a more or less monthly basis. It is recommended to all that you contact him via his email address listed below and asked to be put on the mailing list. He really does an excellent job.

andya@diamondcity.net

AIRPORTS:

David Davidson, Chairman

Nothing new to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

Dan returned to the topic of changing our meeting place to Point Lookout Airport KPLK.

Kelly Trimble proposed that during the peak tourism season of the summer we meet at the airport. Then, when tourism is off, in the late fall and winter, we meet at McFarlain's. This would benefit the Bluto's who have been so kind to us. We would not be tying up valuable table tops during their busy time. And it will give us the opportunity to try out airport meetings as a marketing tool. Discussion on the matter will continue.

Jan Hoynacki will begin work on setting up a future safety seminar at the airport.

NEW BUSINESS:

Petit Jean State Park Fly In is back on the table and being discussed as a July or August event. Further details to be presented at our next meeting.

You know that Miss Petit Jean is just like your ex – girl friend. You know the one. You couldn't quite make it work, so you let her go. Now, she is back, all sassy and teasing like. Messing with her is like spin training. She will leave you a bit disoriented and slightly weak in the knees. Good Luck!

PROGRAM:

Jan Hoynacki was kind enough to arrange for our speaker tonight, Mr. Steve Broussard, who will tell us all about Tecnam aircraft.

Steve has been in the business of selling airplanes for 20 years or more. And it was about two years ago that he approached the Tecnam representatives at Sun & Fun for information about their product. This led to him becoming a dealer and establishing a service center.

Steve's company is Team Aircraft Sales located at Johnson County Executive Airport (KOJC). He sells Tecnam aircraft and Mooneys. (A)

Steve began his talk by telling us a little bit about the history of Tecnam. The story really begins in the 1930's. The Pascale brothers Giovanni and Luigi were consumed by anything that flew. They

spent countless hours building, and sailing paper airplanes from their second story balcony.

The brothers' first real airplane was built and flew in the early 1950's. Three generations later the company has grown and is still going strong. Interestingly enough, the factory is still located on a grass strip.

Tecnam offers 6 different models. They have 4 light sport aircraft and 2 certified aircraft. And they have a twin in the certification process.

The light sport models have a lot of appeal among the younger generation. All their aircraft have the latest in the gee whiz glass panels. The interiors feel and smell like an expensive sports car. And the styling is pure Italian, graceful and a true work of art.

Tecnam uses Rotax engines which have the same safety rating as the venerable Lycoming 360, but they sip gas and at an astoundingly slow rate. Their twin burns 9 to 10 GPH "Total"!

Cocky and confident, that I could resist any sales pitch, I agreed to Steve's suggestion that he show me the aircraft. Before I knew what was happening, I was sitting in the cockpit, mesmerized by a glass panel and trying hard not to drool. Thoughts of selling my first born and all of his children to pay for my addiction stubbornly refused to depart my consciousness.

At \$ 208,000.00 for a light sport aircraft it is not for the faint of wallet. But did I mention the glass panel, the smell and the curvaceous lines of that sexy empennage.

We thank you Steve, for giving us a very interesting and formative presentation on Tecnam Aircraft.

50/50 DRAWING:

Jan Hoynacki's ticket was pulled from the hat but once again the Joker was not drawn. Accordingly, the pot grows another week.

NEXT MEETING:

Our Next Meeting:

People gather for conversation and dinner at 6 pm followed by the meeting which will start when most folks are finished with their meal which is usually between 6:30 and 7 pm.

The next meeting will be held on 5-24-18 which is the 4th Thursday of May at McFarlain's Restaurant in Branson Missouri.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Berman, Secretary

PS:

- (A) So, Mr. Broussard sells Mooneys. That explains the Jan connection. She is such a dedicated Mooniac that of course she would bring Steve, disguised as a light sport salesman. I bet, when she was younger, she hung out in airports, and passed out what looked like Reverend Moon bibles. But if you opened one you got a fold out of a Mooney 201, with speed statistics and fuel consumption data prominently displayed. That would be like cocaine for the aviation addicted.

Who knew our Jan had such a, shall we say, colorful curriculum vitae.